Clay M. Taylor Bryan C. Assink

BONDS ELLIS EPPICH SCHAFER JONES LLP 420 Throckmorton Street, Suite 1000

Fort Worth, Texas 76102 (817) 405-6900 telephone (817) 405-6902 facsimile

Email: clay.taylor@bondsellis.com Email: bryan.assink@bondsellis.com

**Attorneys for James Dondero** 

Davor Rukavina Julian P. Vasek MUNSCH HARDT KOPF & HARR, P.C. 500 N. Akard Street, Suite 3800 Dallas, Texas 75202-2790 (214) 855-7500 telephone (214) 978-4375 facsimile Email: drukavina@munsch.com

Attorneys for NexPoint Advisors, L.P. and Highland Capital Management Fund Advisors, L.P.

Deborah Deitsch-Perez Michael P. Aigen STINSON LLP 3102 Oak Lawn Avenue, Suite 777 Dallas, Texas 75219 (214) 560-2201 telephone (214) 560-2203 facsimile

Email: deborah.deitschperez@stinson.com Email: michael.aigen@stinson.com

Attorneys for James Dondero, Nancy Dondero, Highland Capital Management Services, Inc. and HCRE Partners, LLC

### IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS DALLAS DIVISION

In re:	§ Case No. 19-34054
	§
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.	§ Chapter 11
	§
Debtor.	§
HIGHLAND CADITAL MANAGEMENTS I D	
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§
DL-24266	§ Adv. Proc. No. 21-03003-sgj
Plaintiff,	§
	§
vs.	§
THE GROWNER ON THE CONTROL OF THE	§
JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND	<b>§</b>
THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST,	§
	8
Defendants.	o

HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§ §
Plaintiff,	§ §
vs.	§ Adv. Proc. No. 21-03005-sgj §
NEXPOINT ADVISORS, L.P., JAMES	§ §
DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST,	§ §
Defendants.	§ §
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§ §
Plaintiff,	§ § Adv. Proc. No. 21-03006-sgj
vs.	§ §
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC., JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY	\$ \$ \$
INVESTMENT TRUST,	§ §
Defendants.	§ §
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§ § Adv. Proc. No. 21-03007-sgj
Plaintiff,	§ §
vs.	§
HCRE PARTNERS, LLC (n/k/a NexPoint Real	§ §
Estate Partners, LLC), JAMES DONDERO,	§
NANCY DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST,	§ §
Defendants.	\$ \$

# APPENDIX IN SUPPORT OF DEFENDANTS' OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT

Defendants James Dondero, NexPoint Advisors, L.P., Highland Capital Management Services, Inc., and HCRE Partners, LLC file this Appendix in Support of their Opposition to Plaintiff Highland Capital Management, L.P.'s Motion for Partial Summary Judgment, and request the Court take judicial notice of the documents contained herein.

Exhibit	Document	Appendix Page(s)	
1	Declaration of James Dondero, dated January 20, 2022	App. 1-23	
A	HCMS Payment Ledger	App. 24-25	
В	Nancy Dondero's Acceptance of Appointment of Family Trustee for the Dugaboy Family Trust effective October 14, 2015	App. 26-31	
С	Documents showing J. Dondero proof of service as Family Trustee for the Dugaboy Family Trust and subsequent resignation	App. 32-72	
D	Letter to J. Pomerantz from D. Lynn, dated February 1, 2021	App. 73-74	
Е	Termination of Amended and Restated Shared Services Agreement, among Highland Capital Management, L.P. and NexPoint Advisors, L.P., dated November 30, 2020	App. 75-76	
2	Declaration of Nancy M. Dondero, dated January 20, 2022	App. 77-85	
A	Nancy Dondero's Acceptance of Appointment of Family Trustee for the Dugaboy Family Trust effective October 14, 2015	App. 86-91	
3	Declaration of Michael Aigen, dated January 20, 2022	App. 92-95	
A	Transcript of the Video Deposition of James P. Seery, Jr. on October 21, 2021, Adv. Proc. No. 21-03005	App. 96-185	
В	Transcript of the Remote Deposition of Bruce McGovern on November 9, 2021, Adv. Proc. No 21-03003	App. 186-200	
С	List of Promissory Notes	App. 201-202	
D	Email from F. Waterhouse to K. Hendrix, dated November 25, 2020	App. 203-208	
Е	Email from F. Waterhouse to K. Hendrix, dated December 31, 2020	App. 209-210	
F	Expert Report of Steven J. Pully	App. 211-235	
G	Expert Report of Alan M. Johnson	App. 236-262	
Н	Highland Capital Management, L.P.'s Responses and Objections to Defendants' Joint Discovery Requests, dated September 27, 2021	App. 263-300	

Dated: January 20, 2022 Respectfully submitted,

#### /s/Deborah Deitsch-Perez

Deborah Deitsch-Perez State Bar No. 24036072 Michael P. Aigen

State Bar No. 24012196

STINSON LLP

3102 Oak Lawn Avenue, Suite 777

Dallas, Texas 75219

(214) 560-2201 telephone

(214) 560-2203 facsimile

Email: deborah.deitschperez@stinson.com

Email: michael.aigen@stinson.com

ATTORNEYS FOR JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC. AND NEXPOINT REAL ESTATE PARTNERS, LLC

### /s/Clay M. Taylor

Clay M. Taylor

State Bar No. 24033261

Bryan C. Assink

State Bar No. 24089009

BONDS ELLIS EPPICH SCHAFER JONES LLP

420 Throckmorton Street, Suite 1000

Fort Worth, Texas 76102

(817) 405-6900 telephone

(817) 405-6902 facsimile

Email: clay.taylor@bondsellis.com Email: bryan.assink@bondsellis.com

#### ATTORNEYS FOR JAMES DONDERO

#### /s/Davor Rukavina

Davor Rukavina

Julian P. Vasek

MUNSCH HARDT KOPF & HARR, P.C.

500 N. Akard Street, Suite 3800

Dallas, Texas 75202-2790

(214) 855-7500 telephone

(214) 978-4375 facsimile

Email: drukavina@munsch.com

ATTORNEYS FOR NEXPOINT ADVISORS, L.P. AND HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT FUND ADVISORS, L.P.

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that, on January 20, 2022, a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was served via the Court's CM/ECF system on counsel for Plaintiff Highland Capital Management, L.P. and on all other parties requesting or consenting to such service in this case.

/s/Deborah Deitsch-Perez
Deborah Deitsch-Perez

# Exhibit 1

Clay M. Taylor Bryan C. Assink

BONDS ELLIS EPPICH SCHAFER JONES LLP 420 Throckmorton Street, Suite 1000

Fort Worth, Texas 76102 (817) 405-6900 telephone (817) 405-6902 facsimile

Email: clay.taylor@bondsellis.com Email: bryan.assink@bondsellis.com

**Attorneys for James Dondero** 

Davor Rukavina Julian P. Vasek MUNSCH HARDT KOPF & HARR, P.C. 500 N. Akard Street, Suite 3800 Dallas, Texas 75202-2790 (214) 855-7500 telephone (214) 978-4375 facsimile Email: drukavina@munsch.com

Attorneys for NexPoint Advisors, L.P. and Highland Capital Management Fund Advisors, L.P.

Deborah Deitsch-Perez Michael P. Aigen STINSON LLP 3102 Oak Lawn Avenue, Suite 777 Dallas, Texas 75219

Dallas, Texas 75219 (214) 560-2201 telephone (214) 560-2203 facsimile

Email: deborah.deitschperez@stinson.com Email: michael.aigen@stinson.com

Attorneys for James Dondero, Nancy Dondero, Highland Capital Management Services, Inc. and NexPoint Real Estate Partners, LLC

### IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS DALLAS DIVISION

In re:	§	Case No. 19-34054
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.	§ §	Chapter 11
Debtor.	§ 8	•
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HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	8	
- ', ', ', ',	8	
Plaintiff,	§	Adv. Proc. No. 21-03003-sgj
i idiitiii,	§	
	§	
VS.	§	
TAMES DONDEDO MANSON DONDEDO AND SUE	§	
JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND THE	§	
DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST,	8	
	8	
Defendants.	8	

CORE/3522697.0002/171867762.5 App. 2

HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§ §
Plaintiff,	§
,	§ Adv. Proc. No. 21-03004-sgj §
vs.	§ 2
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT FUND ADVISORS, L.P.,	§ § §
	§
Defendant.	§
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§ §
Plaintiff,	§
	§ § Adv. Proc. No. 21-03005-sgj
vs.	§
NEXPOINT ADVISORS, L.P., JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST,	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$
Defendants.	§ §
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§ §
Plaintiff,	§ Adv. Proc. No. 21-03006-sgj
vs.	§ §
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT	§ §
SERVICES, INC., JAMES DONDERO,	<b>§</b>
NANCY DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST,	\$ §
Defendants.	§ §
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§ Adv. Proc. No. 21-03007-sgj
Plaintiff,	\$ \$
vs.	8 §
	§
HCRE PARTNERS, LLC (n/k/a NexPoint Real	§
Estate Partners, LLC), JAMES DONDERO,	§
NANCY DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY	§
INVESTMENT TRUST,	§
	<b>§</b>
Defendants.	8

CORE/3522697.0002/171867762.5 App. 3

### **DECLARATION OF JAMES DONDERO**

I, James Dondero, hereby swear under oath and penalty of perjury pursuant to the laws of the United States of America that the following is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

1. My name is James Dondero. I am over the age of 21, have never been convicted of a felony or crime of moral turpitude, and am otherwise qualified to give this Declaration. I have personal knowledge of the facts stated in this Declaration.

### A. Background.

- 2. I am currently a named Defendant in Adversary Proceedings No. 21-03003-sgj, 21-03005-sgj, 21-03006-sgj, and 21-03007-sgj. I have personal knowledge of the facts contained in this declaration, and if called as a witness to testify, I could and would do so competently.
- 3. I co-founded Highland Capital Management, L.P. ("HCM") in the year 2000, and have been working in the financial services industry for over thirty (30) years. I served as HCM's President and Chief Executive Officer until my resignation on January 9, 2020.
- 4. Along with having served as CEO for HCM, I have also served as a high-level executive and controlling portfolio manager for NexPoint Advisors, L.P. ("NexPoint"), HCRE Partners, LLC ("HCRE"), Highland Capital Management Services, Inc. ("HCMS"), and Highland Capital Management Fund Advisors, L.P. ("HCMFA"). I have spent years of service to these companies as a chief executive, and am familiar with each company's internal management and operational structures and procedures.

## **B.** The Promissory Notes.

1. HCM Issued Three (3) Notes to Me.

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5. On February 2, 2018, I borrowed money from HCM and entered into a promissory note with HCM in the amount of \$3,825,000.00 (the "February 2018 Note"). The February 2018 Note bore an interest rate equal to the long-term applicable federal interest rate at the time of 2.66%, to be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365<sup>th</sup> per annum. On its original terms, the February 2018 Note was a payable on demand by HCM, and was subject to an acceleration clause. This promissory note, unlike typical promissory notes, was a soft note that was made between friendly affiliates, was subject to renegotiation per its own terms, was not collateralized, and was ambiguous, taken as whole, because it referred to other agreements that were not specified in the promissory note, and was made, as indicated in the promissory note, to help satisfy personal tax obligations.

6. On August 1, 2018, I borrowed money from HCM and entered into a promissory note with HCM in the amount of \$2,500,000 (the "August 1, 2018 Note").<sup>2</sup> The August 1, 2018 Note bore an interest rate equal to the long-term applicable federal interest rate at the time of 2.95%, to be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365<sup>th</sup> per annum. On its original terms, the August 2018 Note was payable upon demand by HCM, and was subject to an acceleration clause. This promissory note, unlike typical promissory notes, was a soft note, which was made between friendly affiliates, was subject to renegotiation per its own terms, was not collateralized, and was ambiguous, taken as whole, because it referred to other agreements that were not specified in the promissory note.

7. On August 13, 2018, I borrowed money from HCM and entered into a promissory note with HCM in the amount of \$2,500,000 (the "August 13, 2018 Note").<sup>3</sup> The August 13, 2018

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Pl. Appx. 00678-679.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Id. at 00681-682.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> *Id.* at 00684-685.

Note bore an interest rate equal to the long-term applicable federal interest rate at the time of 2.95%, to be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365<sup>th</sup> per annum. On its original terms, the August 2018 Note was payable upon demand by HCM and was subject to an acceleration clause. This promissory note, unlike typical promissory notes, was a soft note that was made between friendly affiliates, was subject to renegotiation per its own terms, was not collateralized, and was ambiguous, taken as whole, because it referred to other agreements that were not specified in the promissory note.

### 2. HCM Issued one (1) Term Note to NexPoint.

8. On May 31, 2017, NexPoint borrowed money from HCM and entered into a promissory note with HCM in the amount of \$30,746,812.33 (the "NexPoint Term Note").<sup>4</sup> The NexPoint Term Note bore an interest rate of 6%, to be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365<sup>th</sup> per annum. The NexPoint Term Note was due in thirty (30) equal annual payments, due by the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December of each calendar year, with the final payment being due on December 31, 2047. This Term Note is paid current. The NexPoint Term Note allowed for prepayment, and was also subject to an acceleration clause upon failure to pay any installment as it became due. The purpose of the NexPoint Term Note was in-part to consolidate several prior notes made between NexPoint Advisors, L.P. and HCM. This promissory note, unlike typical promissory notes, was a soft note that was made between friendly affiliates, was subject to renegotiation per its own terms, was not collateralized, and was ambiguous, taken as whole, because it referred to other agreements that were not specified in the promissory note. Additionally, unlike typical promissory notes of this nature, there was no personal guaranty supporting this promissory note. This promissory note was also ambiguous with respect to the prepayment of future interest and the application of any

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> *Id.* at 00042-43.

prepayment between accrued interest, future interest, and principal, and it did not contain any provision concerning what the impact of prepayments would be on future scheduled payments.

### 3. HCM Issued Five (5) Notes to HCRE.

- 9. On November 27, 2013, HCRE borrowed money from HCM and entered into a promissory note with HCM in the amount of \$100,000 (the "November 27, 2013 Note").<sup>5</sup> The November 27, 2013 Note bore an interest rate of 8%, to be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365<sup>th</sup> per annum. On its original terms, the November 27, 2013 Note was payable on demand by HCM, and was subject to an acceleration clause. This promissory note, unlike typical promissory notes, was a soft note that was made between friendly affiliates, was subject to renegotiation per its own terms, was not collateralized, and was ambiguous, taken as whole, because it referred to other agreements that were not specified in the promissory note. Additionally, unlike typical promissory notes of this nature, there was no personal guaranty supporting this promissory note.
- 10. On May 31, 2017, HCRE borrowed money from HCM and entered into a promissory note with HCM in the amount of \$6,059,831.51 (the "HCRE Term Note").<sup>6</sup> The HCRE Term Note bore an interest rate of 8%, to be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365<sup>th</sup> per annum. The HCRE Term Note was due in thirty (30) equal annual payments, due the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December of each calendar year, with the final payment being due on December 31, 2047. The HCRE Term Note allowed for prepayment, and was also subject to an acceleration clause upon failure to pay any installment as it became due. The purpose of the HCRE Term Note was made in-part to consolidate several prior notes made between HCRE Partners, LLC, and HCM. This promissory note, unlike typical promissory notes, was a soft note that was made between friendly affiliates, was subject to renegotiation per its own terms, was not collateralized, and was

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> *Id.* at 00202-203.

<sup>6</sup> Id. at 00218-219.

ambiguous, taken as whole, because it referred to other agreements that were not specified in the promissory note. Additionally, unlike typical promissory notes of this nature, there was no personal guaranty supporting this promissory note.

11. On October 12, 2017, HCRE borrowed money from HCM and entered into a promissory note with HCM in the amount of \$2,500,000 (the "October 12, 2017 Note"). The October 12, 2017 Note bore an interest rate of 8%, to be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365<sup>th</sup> per annum. On its original terms, the October 12, 2017 Note was payable on demand by HCM, and was subject to an acceleration clause. This promissory note, unlike typical promissory notes, was a soft note that was made between friendly affiliates, was subject to renegotiation per its own terms, was not collateralized, and was ambiguous, taken as whole, because it referred to other agreements that were not specified in the promissory note. Additionally, unlike typical promissory notes of this nature, there was no personal guaranty supporting this promissory note.

12. On October 15, 2018, HCRE borrowed money from HCM and entered into a promissory note with HCM in the amount of \$750,000 (the "October 15, 2018 Note"). The October 15, 2018 Note bore an interest rate of 8%, to be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365<sup>th</sup> per annum. On its original terms, the October 15, 2018 Note was payable on demand by HCM, and was subject to an acceleration clause. This promissory note, unlike typical promissory notes, was a soft note that was made between friendly affiliates, was subject to renegotiation per its own terms, was not collateralized, and was ambiguous, taken as whole, because it referred to other agreements that were not specified in the promissory note. Additionally, unlike typical promissory notes of this nature, there was no personal guaranty supporting this promissory note.

App. 8

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> *Id.* at 00205-206.

<sup>8</sup> Id. at 00208-209.

13. On September 25, 2019, HCRE borrowed money from HCM and entered into a promissory note with HCM in the amount of \$900,000 (the "September 25, 2019 Note"). The September 25, 2019 Note bore an interest rate of 8%, to be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365<sup>th</sup> per annum. On its original terms, the September 25, 2019 Note was payable on demand by HCM, and was subject to an acceleration clause. This promissory note, unlike typical promissory notes, was a soft note that was made between friendly affiliates, was subject to renegotiation per its own terms, was not collateralized, and was ambiguous, taken as whole, because it referred to other agreements that were not specified in the promissory note. Additionally, unlike typical promissory notes of this nature, there was no personal guaranty supporting this promissory note.

## 4. HCM Issued five (5) Notes to HCMS.

14. On March 28, 2018, HCMS borrowed money from HCM and entered into a promissory note with HCM in the amount of \$150,000.00 (the "March 28, 2018 Note"). The March 28, 2018 Note bore an interest rate equal to the long-term applicable federal interest rate at the time of 2.88%, to be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365<sup>th</sup> per annum. On its original terms, the March 28, 2018 Note was payable upon demand by HCM, and was subject to an acceleration clause. This promissory note, unlike typical promissory notes, was a soft note that was made between friendly affiliates, was subject to renegotiation per its own terms, was not collateralized, and was ambiguous, taken as whole, because it referred to other agreements that were not specified in the promissory note. Additionally, unlike typical promissory notes of this nature, there was no personal guaranty supporting this promissory note.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> *Id.* at 00211-212.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> *Id.* at 00118-119.

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15. On June 25, 2018, HCMS borrowed money from HCM and entered into a promissory note with HCM in the amount of \$200,000.00 (the "June 25, 2018 Note"). The June 25, 2018 Note bore an interest rate equal to the long-term applicable federal interest rate at the time of 3.05%, to be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365<sup>th</sup> per annum. On its original terms, the June 25, 2018 Note was payable upon demand by HCM, and was subject to an acceleration clause. This promissory note, unlike typical promissory notes, was a soft note that was made between friendly affiliates, was subject to renegotiation per its own terms, was not collateralized, and was ambiguous, taken as whole, because it referred to other agreements that were not specified in the promissory note. Additionally, unlike typical promissory notes of this nature, there was no personal guaranty supporting this promissory note.

16. On May 29, 2019, HCMS borrowed money from HCM and entered into a promissory note with HCM in the amount of \$400,000.00 (the "May 29, 2019 Note"). The May 29, 2019 Note bore an interest rate equal to the long-term applicable federal interest rate at the time of 2.39%, to be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365<sup>th</sup> per annum. On its original terms, the June 25, 2018 Note was payable upon demand by HCM, and was subject to an acceleration clause. This promissory note, unlike typical promissory notes, was a soft note that was made between friendly affiliates, was subject to renegotiation per its own terms, was not collateralized, and was ambiguous, taken as whole, because it referred to other agreements that were not specified in the promissory note. Additionally, unlike typical promissory notes of this nature, there was no personal guaranty supporting this promissory note.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> *Id.* at 00121-122.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Id. at 00124-125.

17. On June 26, 2019, HCMS borrowed money from HCM and entered into a promissory note with HCM in the amount of \$150,000.00 (the "June 26, 2019 Note"). <sup>13</sup> The June 26, 2019 Note bore an interest rate equal to the long-term applicable federal interest rate at the time of 2.37%, to be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365<sup>th</sup> per annum. On its original terms, the June 26, 2019 Note was payable upon demand by HCM, and was subject to an acceleration clause. This promissory note, unlike typical promissory notes, was a soft note that was made between friendly affiliates, was subject to renegotiation per its own terms, was not collateralized, and was ambiguous, taken as whole, because it referred to other agreements that were not specified in the promissory note. Additionally, unlike typical promissory notes of this nature, there was no personal guaranty supporting this promissory note.

18. On May 31, 2017, HCMS borrowed money from HCM and entered into a promissory note with HCM in the amount of \$20,247,628.02 (the "HCMS Term Note"). 14 The HCMS Term Note bore an interest rate of 8%, to be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365<sup>th</sup> per annum. The HCMS Term Note was due in thirty (30) equal annual payments, due the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December of each calendar year, with the final payment being due on December 31, 2047. This Term Note has been paid current. This promissory note, unlike typical promissory notes, was a soft note that was made between friendly affiliates, was subject to renegotiation per its own terms, was not collateralized, and was ambiguous, taken as whole, because it referred to other agreements that were not specified in the promissory note. Additionally, unlike typical promissory notes of this nature, there was no personal guaranty supporting this promissory note. This promissory note was also ambiguous with respect to the prepayment of future interest and the application of any prepayment between accrued interest, future interest, and principal, and it did not contain any

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> *Id.* at 00127-128.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> *Id.* at 00134-135.

provision concerning what the impact of prepayments would be on future scheduled payments. Attached to this Declaration as "Exhibit A" is an amortization table showing payments made on the HCMS Term Note, which was kept in the normal and ordinary course of business and made by someone with knowledge of the payments at the time it was created.

### C. Dugaboy, as the "Majority Interest" Approved Compensation.

- 19. HCM was formed as a limited partnership under the laws of the State of Delaware, and was governed by a Limited Partnership Agreement ("LPA"). The LPA was entered into on December 24, 2015, between Strand Advisors, Inc. (the General Partner), and the following Limited Partners:
  - (1) The Dugaboy Investment Trust ("Dugaboy"),
  - (2) The Mark and Pamela Okada Family Trust Exempt Trust #1,
  - (3) The Mark and Pamela Okada Family Trust Exempt Trust #2, and
  - (4) Mark Okada. 16
- 20. Pursuant to the LPA specifically in Section 3.10(a) –HCM's "Majority Interest[-holder]" was entitled to approve the compensation of HCM's General Partner and any "Affiliate" of the General Partner.<sup>17</sup> The LPA defines the Majority Interest as "the owners of more than fifty percent (50%) of the Percentage Interests of Class A Limited Partners." The Dugaboy Family Trust ("Dugaboy") represented the Majority Interest of the Limited Partners, owning a 74.4426% interest of the Limited Partners Class A Interest.<sup>19</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> *Id.* at 00606-641.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> *Id.* at 00636-638.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> *Id.* at 00622.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> *Id.* at 00612.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> *Id.* at 00639.

21. My sister Nancy Dondero has served as the Dugaboy Family Trustee since her appointment in 2015. Attached as "Exhibit B" is a copy of Nancy Dondero's Acceptance of Appointment of Family Trustee for the Dugaboy Family Trust effective October 14, 2015, a record which was kept in the ordinary course of business and made by someone with knowledge of the appointment. Prior to Nancy Dondero's service, Grant Scott served as Dugaboy Family Trustee until October 12, 2015. Grant Scott's resignation letter is contained within Exhibit B. Prior to Grant Scott's service as Dugaboy Family Trustee, I personally served as Dugaboy Family Trustee until my resignation on August 26, 2015. Attached as "Exhibit C" is proof of my service as Family Trustee for the Dugaboy Family Trust and my subsequent resignation prior to Grant Scott's appointment, a record which was kept in the ordinary course of business and made by someone with knowledge of the document...

# D. Dugaboy Agreed That HCM Would Not Collect on the Notes Upon Fulfillment of Conditions Subsequent, Making the Notes Potentially Deferred Compensation.

- 22. Based on my years of experience in working in Private Equity, I am familiar with the compensation structure of similarly situated Private Equity firms. Based on this experience, I am also very familiar with the compensation structure of other similarly situated executives like myself.
- 23. At HCM, as at other comparable capital investment firms, it was common practice to compensate executives with forgivable loans. My compensation was no exception to this practice. In fact, I was undercompensated in my position compared to similarly-situated contemporaries in my field. I know that several other individuals may have received loans by HCM that were forgiven. These individuals include Mike Hurley, Tim Lawler, Pat Daugherty, Jack Yang, Paul Adkins, Gibran Mahmud, Jean-Luc Eberlin, and Appu Mundassery and this was also a common practice and another company in which I have an interest, NexBank Capital, Inc.

- 24. At either the end of 2017 or the beginning of 2018, Dugaboy through Nancy Dondero entered into a verbal agreement (the "2017 Agreement") with myself that HCM would not collect on any of the aforementioned Notes issued in 2017 if certain events occurred. Specifically, if one of specific portfolio companies either MGM, Cornerstone, or Trussway were sold for above cost, or sold in a circumstance outside of my control, HCM agreed that the Notes would be forgiven. In late 2013 or early 2014, the Dugaboy Family Trustee had made an identical agreement that applied to the November 27, 2013 Note. The Agreement assured HCM that the monetization of these portfolio companies would have my utmost focus and attention, and served as an incentive for me to work particularly hard to make sure these assets were successful. Further, this agreement provided the additional benefit to HCM of not increasing my base salary, which I normally would have requested and obtained. However, reaching this agreement made my compensation conditional on performance, and ensured that HCM would not immediately realize a change in its financial position through an increase in my salary, something I had the right to increase.
- 25. At either the end of 2018 or the beginning of 2019, Dugaboy and I entered into another agreement that was identical to the Agreement made in the preceding year (the "2018 Agreement"). This 2018 Agreement covered all the Notes at issue in this litigation that were issued in 2018. The 2018 Agreement provided the same benefits to the HCM as the 2017 Agreement.
- 26. At either the end of 2019 or the beginning of 2020 (prior to January 9, 2020), Dugaboy and I entered into another agreement that was identical to the 2018 Agreement (the "2019 Agreement"). Again, the 2019 Agreement applied to all the Notes at issue in this litigation that were issued in 2019. The 2019 Agreement provided the same benefits to HCM as the 2018 and 2017 Agreements. Collectively, the 2017, 2018, and 2019 Agreements are referred to herein as

the "Agreements." I understand that Plaintiff claims in its Motion that Nancy Dondero and I do not agree about whether I identified the Notes subject to the Agreements. Despite unclear questioning at my deposition, I testified that I identified the Notes that were subject to the Agreements when entering into the Agreements (which is how Nancy Dondero was aware that they involved the different companies) and I specifically remember discussing and identifying the Notes to Nancy Dondero.

- 27. In my years of experience in this industry, and experience working with financial auditors, although the Agreements were not disclosed to the financial auditors at HCM, such a disclosure was not necessary since it would not be considered material. When compared to the considerable size of HCM's assets, the Agreement on such small comparative Notes was *de minimus* when viewed in light of such large assets. Therefore, the Agreement was non-material and did not require disclosure.
- 28. Prior to the commencement of any Adversary Proceedings concerning the Notes, I mentioned to Frank Waterhouse that there were mechanisms in place for forgiving the Notes, or for having them considered as compensation and not being an asset to the Debtor's estate. This came up in the context of discussing what we called the "Pot Plan" discussion for resolving the bankruptcy. I did not discuss every detail of the Agreements, because the important point was that he was made aware that the Notes should be considered as part of my compensation in connection with a resolution of the bankruptcy. By that time there was a great likelihood that some or all of the portfolio companies would be able to be sold for far more that their acquisition price.
- 29. Further, opposing counsel was alerted on February 1, 2021 that one of the defenses in this litigation was that the Notes were subject to forgiveness as potential compensation. In a letter from my one of my attorneys—to opposing counsel at Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones, LLP,

the late retired Bankruptcy Judge Lynn, my lead counsel, made that disclosure. A true and correct copy of this letter is attached to this Declaration as "Exhibit D."

### E. The Agreements Were Made in Good Faith.

30. The Agreements made between myself and Dugaboy were all entered into in good faith. At no point in time were any of these Agreements made with the intent to hinder or defraud HCM as payee. Dugaboy had the right to approve my compensation under the LPA, and it was exercising that right when it agreed to make the Notes forgivable as compensation, provided that I performed successfully as a HCM executive and made sure that the aforementioned illiquid assets were sold for at-or-above cost.

# F. HCM Waived Any Rights to Collect on the Notes When Dugaboy Made the Agreements.

31. When the Agreements were made, HCM waived any rights it had to demand repayment of the demand Notes until it became impossible for the condition subsequent to be met. However, I still intended to make periodic interest payments because I understood that until forgiveness actually occurred, the notes were still bona fide notes. Also, making periodic payments kept the Notes from becoming unreasonably large in the event the conditions for forgiveness did not come to pass. The term loans had requirements for interest payments to be made until the conditions for forgiveness were met, which, as discussed below, were met.

# G. Under its Shared Services Agreement with NexPoint, HCM was Responsible for the NexPoint Term Note Payments Being Made.

32. NexPoint and HCM entered into a written Shared Services Agreement (the "NexPoint SSA") on January 1, 2018, in which HCM provided a broad array of services to NexPoint, and essentially covered all functional areas of NexPoint's business other than executive

and investment functions.<sup>20</sup> In my experience, these types of shared services agreements are common in my industry, and exist to help consolidate function and manpower between a large entity (like HCM) and smaller entities (like NexPoint) that share overlapping ownership structures.

- 33. The NexPoint SSA outlined multiple areas in which HCM would provide services for NexPoint, which resulted in HCM providing virtually the entire workforce for NexPoint's business. Among the areas of services provided under the NexPoint SSA, HCM provided services for NexPoint's back- and middle-office divisions, legal compliance and risk divisions, tax division, administrative services division, management of NexPoint's clients and accounts, and many other divisions.<sup>21</sup> Again, this type of shared services agreement covering these types of services is common in the private equity market where ownership overlaps.
- 34. The result of this shared services agreement was that HCM was responsible for making debt payments on behalf of NexPoint considered a "back and middle office" task which included making payments on the NexPoint Term Note. In fact, HCM made the NexPoint Term Note payments consistent with the SSA, which specifically provided that HCM would make payments to creditors on December 31 of 2017, 2018, and 2019, without any specific authorization or permission from any of the makers.
- 35. Although HCM sought to provide notice of termination of the NexPoint SSA in November of 2020, that termination date was subsequently extended and the SSA was still active and in full effect as of December 31, 2020, the date on which the 2020 annual installment payment was due. The letters providing for the subsequent extension of the NexPoint SSA is attached to this Declaration as "Exhibit E"<sup>22</sup> Because HCM was still responsible for making these types of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> *Id.* at 04163-04181.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Id. at 04165-04167, NexPoint SSA, Section 2.02 "Provision of Services" (a-l).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> See attached Exhibit B, (Letters confirming Jim Dondero's resignation as Dugaboy Family Trustee, and the appointment of Nancy Dondero as Dugaboy Family Trustee)

payments for NexPoint at that time under the active SSA, HCM was responsible for missing that payment. The fact that HCM did not make that payment – as it had done in previous years – was surprising to me, since I never at any point directed Frank Waterhouse to cease making term payments on any Note. In fact, I fully expected HCM's accounting staff to continue making scheduled payments on the NexPoint Note, since the SSA was still in place. The only thing I instructed Frank Waterhouse to do was to pause payment to HCM regarding the NexPoint SSA because it came to light that NexPoint was being substantially overcharged and had already substantially overpaid. I would not have instructed Frank Waterhouse to not make a \$1.4 million installment payment on the NexPoint Term Note – which could result in a default – as the \$1.4 million payment would be trivial compared to a note acceleration.

# H. Under its Oral Shared Services Agreement with HCRE, HCM was also Responsible for the HCRE Term Note Payments Being Made.

- 36. HCRE had a similar shared services agreement (the "HCRE SSA") with HCM that was established by oral agreement. In my experience, shared services agreements are not always in written form, but established by oral agreement and patterns of conduct. HCM provided the same type of services to HCRE as it did to NexPoint, and orally agreed to do so. Similar to NexPoint, HCRE simply did not have the infrastructure or manpower to run its business without the HCRE SSA. As such, HCM provided a comprehensive array of services to HCRE that included back- and middle-office tasks like making sure HCRE's bills and loans were timely paid. This HCRE SSA was long-standing, as HCM had provided these comprehensive services to HCRE for years, and HCRE relied heavily on HCM to provide these services.
- 37. HCM despite having routinely paid on bills and notes for HCRE did not make the December 31, 2020 payment on the HCRE Term Note. At no point prior to that missed payment did I ever direct any person to terminate the HCRE SSA. Further, at no point prior to

that missed payment did I ever direct anyone at HCM to miss or skip any payment on the HCRE Term Note. I fully expected HCM's accounting staff to continue providing these services and making the scheduled payments on the HCRE Term Note.

- I. Under its Oral Shared Services Agreement with HCMS, HCM was also Responsible for the HCMS Term Note Payments Being Made.
- 38. HCMS also had a similar shared services agreement (the "HCMS SSA") with HCM that was established by oral agreement. In my experience, shared services agreements are not always in written form, but established by oral agreement and patterns of conduct. HCM provided the same type of services to HCMS as it did to NexPoint and HCRE, and orally agreed to do so. Similar to NexPoint and HCRE, HCMS simply did not have the infrastructure or manpower to run its business without the HCMS SSA. As such, HCM provided a comprehensive array of services to HCMS that included back- and middle-office tasks like making sure HCMS's bills and loans were timely paid. This HCMS SSA was long-standing, as HCM had provided these comprehensive services to HCMS for years, and HCMS relied heavily on HCM to provide these services.
- 39. HCM despite having routinely paid on bills and notes for HCMS did not make the December 31, 2020 payment on the HCMS Term Note. At no point prior to that missed payment did I ever direct any person to terminate the HCMS SSA. Further, at no point prior to that missed payment did I ever direct anyone at HCM to miss or skip any payment on the HCMS Term Note. I fully expected HCM's accounting staff to continue providing these services and making the scheduled payments on the HCMS Term Note.
- J. Payments Were Made on the NexPoint, HCRE, and HCMS Term Notes to Cure Any Defaults.
- 40. I did not know that the NexPoint, HCRE, and HCMS Term Notes were in default until I called Frank Waterhouse from an in-person hearing in January 2021. I was surprised,

angered, and annoyed to learn that such *de minimis* amounts had not been paid on the Term Notes to keep them current. After asking Frank Waterhouse what it would take to cure them and make them current, he informed me of the amounts required, and I instructed him to make sure the payments got made and that the Term Notes were cured. Much later I learned, discussed further below, that the NexPoint and HCMS loans had been substantially prepaid so that no payment was actually due in December 2021. HCM, which was responsible for keeping track of the status of the loan, did not remind me of the prepayments in December of 2020 or January of 2021. So I pressed Frank Waterhouse, who was HCM's CFO and had the ability and authority to speak on behalf of and bind HCM, to make the payments HCM should have made if it believed that end of year payments on the Term Notes were due in 2020, and he told me the amounts needed and proceeded to make the payments. I would not have caused these payments to be made if Frank Waterhouse disagreed and told me that the payments would not cure and reinstate the loans.

As a result of my conversation with Frank Waterhouse, I therefore believed that the Term Notes would be cured by the payments I directed Frank Waterhouse to make. Surely if the payments would not have cured the loans, he -- the lender's CFO -- would have told me that before making the payments. I could not have been clearer that I was flabbergasted that the payments had not been made and wanted the payment to be made as soon as possible to bring the loans current. I specifically discussed with Frank Waterhouse – HCM's CFO at the time – that I wanted these payments to act as cure payments for all three Term Notes. Waterhouse did not disagree with me that the payments would cure the missed payments, and he agreed to make the cure payments. However, HCM refused to accept the payments as cure for the defaults.

## **K.** Prepayments by NexPoint and HCMS.

- 42. The HCMS and NexPoint Term Notes called for annual payments to be made by December 31 of every calendar year. Not only did HCM make the required term payments, but I also instructed several prepayments to be made on these Notes throughout the years whenever HCM needed liquidity. I understood that the prepayments I caused to be made on the Term Notes, when cash flow required, would be applied to the next scheduled annual payments if payments were not otherwise able to be made, and any reconciliations would be conducted by the HCM so that the borrowers would not be in default as a result of their voluntary prepayments for HCM's benefit. I know that both NexPoint and HCMS made substantial prepayments on their term loans.
- 43. Between March and August of 2019, the following prepayments were made on the NexPoint Term Note: (i) \$750,000.00 on March 29, 2019; (ii) \$1,300,000.00 on April 16, 2019; (iii) \$300,000.00 on June 4, 2019; (iv) \$2,100,000.00 on June 19, 2019; (v) \$630,000.00 on July 9, 2019; and (vi) \$1,300,000.00 on August 13, 2019. These payments totaled \$6,380,000.00 in 2019. Setting aside all issues of prepayment, the normal December, 2019 payment of principal and interest on the NexPoint Term Note would have been \$2,273,970.54, leaving \$4,106,029.46 remaining to apply as prepayments on the Note.
- 44. I know that none of the payments listed above were scheduled payments, but rather, they were payments made upon request from HCM because it needed the liquid funds. Both NexPoint and HCM intended for these payments to count as prepayments on the NexPoint Note to be applied to the December 31, 2020 annual installment payment.
- 45. Similar to NexPoint, HCMS made substantial prepayments towards the HCMS Term Note between May of 2017 and December of 2020. In fact, the prepayments were so large that the HCMS Term Note's principal was paid down by almost \$14,000,000. In that timeframe, the following prepayments were made on the HCMS Term Note: (i) \$985,216.44 on June 23, 2017;

- (ii) \$907,296.25 on July 6, 2017; (iii) \$1,031,463.70 on July 18, 2017; (iv) \$1,971,260.13 on August 25, 2017; (v) \$1,500,000.00 on December 21, 2017; (vi) \$160,665.94 on May 31, 2018; (vii) \$1,000,000.00 on October 8, 2018; (viii) \$1,015,000.00 on May 5, 2019; (ix) \$550,000.00 on August 9, 2019; (x) \$5,600,000.00 on August 21, 2019; and (xi) \$65,360.49 on December 30, 2019.
- 46. Similar to the NexPoint Term Note prepayments, none of these payments were made on December 31 of any given year, nor were any of these payments made on arrears. Instead, these payments were intended by HCMS to be applied to the annual installment payments, and were believed to be accepted as such, since HCM never declared the HCMS Term Note to be in default in either 2017, 2018, or 2019.

#### L. Sale of Shares of MGM.

47. I understand that Plaintiff raises the issue of a sale of Plaintiff's interest in MGM in its Motion. This sale of a small portion of Plaintiff's interest in MGM would not have implicated the Agreements because it was for a *de minimis* amount of MGM stock and was only necessitated as a result of the UCC not being willing to cooperate in a transaction as part of the bankruptcy process that was agreed to by all of the other participants.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746(2), I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is

true and correct.

Dated: January 20, 2022

JAMES DONDERO

# Exhibit A

HCM Services Exhibit A

 Closing Date
 5/31/2017

 Total Commitment
 \$ 20,247,628

 Rate
 2.750%

Date	Interest Accrual	Interest Paid	Accrued Interest	Beg Prin Bal	Principal Paid	Ending Prin Bal
5/31/2017						20,247,628.0
5/31/2017	_		_	20,247,628.02		20,247,628.0
6/23/2017	35,086.64	(35,086.64)	_	20,247,628.02	(950,129.80)	19,297,498.2
6/30/2017	10,177.45	(00,0000)	10,177.45	19,297,498.22	(****,*=*****)	19,297,498.2
7/6/2017	8,723.53	(18,900.97)	-	19,297,498.22	(888,395.28)	18,409,102.
7/18/2017	16,643.85	(16,643.85)	0.00	18,409,102.95	(1,014,819.85)	17,394,283.
7/31/2017	17,036.87	,	17,036.87	17,394,283.10	,	17,394,283.
8/25/2017	32,763.20	(199,329.33)	(149,529.26)	17,394,283.10	(1,771,930.80)	15,622,352.
8/31/2017	7,062.16	,	(142,467.10)	15,622,352.30	,	15,622,352.
9/30/2017	35,310.80		(107,156.30)	15,622,352.30		15,622,352.
10/31/2017	36,487.82		(70,668.48)	15,622,352.30		15,622,352.
11/30/2017	35,310.80		(35,357.68)	15,622,352.30		15,622,352.
12/21/2017	24,717.56		(10,640.13)	15,622,352.30	(1,500,000.00)	14,122,352.
12/31/2017	10,640.13		0.00	14,122,352.30		14,122,352.
1/31/2018	32,984.40		32,984.40	14,122,352.30		14,122,352.
2/28/2018	29,792.36		62,776.76	14,122,352.30		14,122,352.
3/31/2018	32,984.40		95,761.16	14,122,352.30		14,122,352.
4/30/2018	31,920.39		127,681.54	14,122,352.30		14,122,352.
5/31/2018	32,984.40	(160,665.94)	0.00	14,122,352.30	160,665.94	14,283,018.
6/30/2018	32,283.53		32,283.54	14,283,018.24		14,283,018.
7/31/2018	33,359.65		65,643.19	14,283,018.24		14,283,018
8/31/2018	33,359.65		99,002.84	14,283,018.24		14,283,018
9/30/2018	32,283.53		131,286.37	14,283,018.24		14,283,018
10/8/2018	8,608.94	(412,000.00)	(272,104.68)	14,283,018.24	(588,000.00)	13,695,018
10/31/2018	23,731.78		(248,372.91)	13,695,018.24		13,695,018
11/30/2018	30,954.49		(217,418.41)	13,695,018.24		13,695,018
12/31/2018	31,986.31		(185,432.10)	13,695,018.24		13,695,018
1/31/2019	31,986.31		(153,445.79)	13,695,018.24		13,695,018
2/28/2019	28,890.86		(124,554.93)	13,695,018.24		13,695,018
3/5/2019	5,159.08	(37,904.91)	(157,300.76)	13,695,018.24	(977,095.09)	12,717,923.
3/31/2019	24,913.19		(132,387.57)	12,717,923.15		12,717,923
4/30/2019	28,745.99		(103,641.58)	12,717,923.15		12,717,923
5/31/2019	29,704.19		(73,937.39)	12,717,923.15		12,717,923
6/30/2019	28,745.99		(45,191.40)	12,717,923.15		12,717,923
7/31/2019	29,704.19		(15,487.21)	12,717,923.15		12,717,923
8/9/2019	8,623.80		(6,863.41)	12,717,923.15	(550,000.00)	12,167,923
8/21/2019	11,001.14	(4,137.73)	(0.00)	12,167,923.15	(5,595,862.27)	6,572,060
8/31/2019	4,951.55		4,951.55	6,572,060.88		6,572,060
9/30/2019	14,854.66		19,806.21	6,572,060.88		6,572,060
10/15/2019	7,427.33		27,233.54	6,572,060.88		6,572,060
10/31/2019	7,922.48		35,156.02	6,572,060.88		6,572,060
11/30/2019	14,854.66		50,010.68	6,572,060.88		6,572,060
12/30/2019	14,854.66	(65,360.49)	(495.15)	6,572,060.88		6,572,060
12/31/2019	495.16		0.00	6,572,060.88		6,572,060
1/31/2020	15,349.81		15,349.82	6,572,060.88		6,572,060
2/29/2020	14,359.50		29,709.32	6,572,060.88		6,572,060
3/31/2020	15,349.81		45,059.13	6,572,060.88		6,572,060
4/30/2020	14,854.66		59,913.79	6,572,060.88		6,572,060
5/31/2020	15,349.81		75,263.60	6,572,060.88	-	6,572,060
6/30/2020	14,854.66		90,118.26	6,572,060.88		6,572,060
7/31/2020	15,349.81		105,468.08	6,572,060.88		6,572,060
8/31/2020	15,349.81		120,817.89	6,572,060.88		6,572,060
9/30/2020	14,854.66		135,672.55	6,572,060.88		6,572,060
10/31/2020	15,349.81		151,022.36	6,572,060.88		6,572,060
11/30/2020	14,854.66		165,877.02	6,572,060.88		6,572,060
12/31/2020	15,349.81		181,226.83	6,572,060.88		6,572,060.

# Exhibit B

# THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST James D. Dondero, Primary Beneficiary

October 12, 2015

Dana Scott Breault 5207 Scarborough Lane Dallas, Texas 75287

Cynthia D. M. Brown, President Commonwealth Trust Company 29 Bancroft Mills Road #2 Wilmington, Delaware 19806

Re: The Dugaboy Investment Trust

Dear Ms. Breault,

I, James D. Dondero, am writing to inform you that on October 12, 2015, I received notice from Grant James Scott that he will cease to serve as Family Trustee of The Dugaboy Investment Trust (the "Trust") and shall stop performing all duties and responsibilities undertaken as Family Trustee of the Trust.

Pursuant to the attached Resignation of Family Trustee from Grant James Scott, I appoint Nancy Marie Dondero as the successor Family Trustee of the Trust.

This letter and the attached Resignation of Family Trustee shall satisfy my obligations under Section 5.2 of that Trust Agreement entered into on November 15, 2010 to provide you, Settlor, with notice of my appointment of a successor Family Trustee.

ma

Very truly you

James D. Dondero

# THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST Grant James Scott, Family Trustee

October 12, 2015

Dana Scott Breault 5207 Scarborough Lane Dallas, Texas 75287

Cynthia D. M. Brown, President Commonwealth Trust Company 29 Bancroft Mills Road #2 Wilmington, Delaware 19806

Re: The Dugaboy Investment Trust

Dear Ms. Breault,

I, Grant James Scott, am writing to inform you that as of October 12, 2015, I will cease to serve as Family Trustee of The Dugaboy Investment Trust (the "**Trust**") and shall stop performing all duties and responsibilities undertaken as Family Trustee of the Trust pursuant to the attached Resignation of Family Trustee.

This letter and the attached Resignation of Family Trustee shall satisfy my obligations under Section 5.1 of that Trust Agreement entered into on November 15, 2010 to provide you, Settlor, with written notice of my resignation.

Grant James Scott

Very truly yours.

### RESIGNATION OF FAMILY TRUSTEE

I, GRANT JAMES SCOTT, do hereby acknowledge that I voluntarily tender my resignation as Family Trustee of The Dugaboy Investment Trust pursuant to that Trust Agreement, dated November 15, 2010 by, between and among Dana Scott Breault, as Settlor, and Common Wealth Trust Company, as Administrative Trustee.

This resignation shall take effect immediately upon the execution hereof and delivery of a written acknowledged instrument wherein NANCY MARIE DONDERO accepts the trust and the position of Family Trustee.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereby sign my Resignation as Family Trustee of the above trust.

Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of:

Family

10/12/2015 Date

STATE OF TEXAS

8

COUNTY OF DALLAS

Before me, a notary public, on this day personally appeared GRANT JAMES SCOTT known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

Given under my hand and seal of office this // day of October, 2015.

MICAELA SUE ALLEN Notary Public, State of Texas My Commission Expires January 15, 2019

Notary Public's Signature

[SEAL]

Expiration:

#### ACCEPTANCE OF APPOINTMENT OF FAMILY TRUSTEE

I, NANCY MARIE DONDERO, appointed as Family Trustee under Article V, Section 5.2(a)(i) of The Dugaboy Investment Trust, dated November 15, 2010 (the "Trust"), hereby acknowledge and accept the position of Family Trustee of the Trust and hereby agree to faithfully perform all the duties and adopt all of the obligations imposed.

Signed this 3th day of October, 2015.

NANCY MARIE DONDERO
Family Trustee

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF DALLAS §

Before me, a notary public, on this day personally appeared **NANCY MARIE DONDERO** known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that she executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

Given under my hand and seal of office this / day of October, 2015.

MICAELA SUE ALLEN
Notary Public, State of Texas
My Commission Expires
January 15, 2019

[SEAL]

Notary Public's Signature

Expiration: January 15, 2019

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF DELIVERY

I, JAMES D. DONDERO, acknowledge that this Acceptance of Appointment of Family Trustee by NANCY MARIE DONDERO was delivered to and received by me on October \_\_\_, 2015.

James D. Dondero

# **Exhibit C**

#### TRUST AGREEMENT

Between

DANA SCOTT BREAULT, Settlor

and

JAMES D. DONDERO and COMMONWEALTH TRUST COMPANY, Trustees

THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST

WINSTEAD PC DALLAS, TEXAS

# THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST

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#### THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST

AGREEMENT OF TRUST made and entered into at Dallas, Texas, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of October, 2010, by and between DANA SCOTT BREAULT, as Settlor, and JAMES D. DONDERO, and COMMONWEALTH TRUST COMPANY, as Trustees.

#### ARTICLE I

#### **DEFINITIONS**

The following terms, as used in this Trust Agreement, have the meanings set forth below, unless another meaning is clearly indicated by context or circumstances:

- 1.1 Settlor. "Settlor" means DANA SCOTT BREAULT.
- 1.2 Jim. "Jim" means JAMES D. DONDERO.
- 1.3 Trustees. The initial Trustee of each trust created hereunder is JAMES D. DONDERO. "Trustee" means any person or entity serving as Trustee, whether original or successor and whether one or more in number. "Administrative Trustee" means COMMONWEALTH TRUST COMPANY in its capacity as Administrative Trustee, and any successor Administrative Trustee appointed in accordance with Section 5.2(c). "Independent Trustee" means GRANT JAMES SCOTT, III, (upon his acceptance as set forth in Section 5.2(b)) in his capacity as Trustee, and any successor Independent Trustee appointed in accordance with Section 5.2(b). "Family Trustee" means JAMES D. DONDERO in his capacity as Trustee, and any successor Family Trustee appointed in accordance with Section 5.2(a). The rights, powers, duties, and obligations, of the Family Trustee, Independent Trustee and Administrative Trustee are to be exercised and allocated pursuant to Section 6.2 of this Trust Agreement.
- 1.4 <u>Children</u>. "Children" means REESE AVRY DONDERO, JAMESON DRUE DONDERO, and any other child born to or adopted by Jim after the date of this Trust Agreement. "Child" means one of the Children.
- 1.5 <u>Descendants</u>. "Descendants" means the legitimate children of the person designated and the legitimate lineal descendants of such children, and includes any person adopted before attaining age fifteen (15) and the adopted person's legitimate lineal descendants. A posthumous child shall be considered as living at the death of his parent.
- 1.6 <u>Code</u>. "Code" means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and corresponding provisions of future federal tax law.
- 1.7 <u>Per Stirpes</u>. "<u>Per Stirpes</u>," when used with respect to a distribution of property among a class of beneficiaries, shall mean by representation; that is, the Descendants of a deceased ancestor take the share such ancestor would have received had he or she been living, and the issue of a living ascendant would not take in competition with such ascendant. The <u>per</u>

stirpital allocation shall commence with the most senior generation that has a living representative.

#### ARTICLE II

#### **FUNDING**

Settlor has transferred to the Trustee, without consideration, One Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$1,000.00) which shall be administered and distributed in accordance with the terms of this Trust Agreement. Settlor and others may transfer to the Trustee properties acceptable to them, to be added to the trust estate. The Trustee shall administer the initial trust estate pursuant to the terms of Section 3.1.

#### ARTICLE III

#### DISTRIBUTION OF PRINCIPAL AND INCOME

- 3.1 <u>Trust for Jim</u>. The trust for the benefit of Jim shall be administered and distributed upon the following terms:
  - (a) <u>Distributions to Jim</u>. The Family Trustee may distribute to Jim so much of the net income and principal of the trust as the Family Trustee deems necessary to provide for Jim's maintenance, support and health. Undistributed income shall be accumulated and added to principal. In exercising its discretion, the Family Trustee shall take into account the following factors:
    - (i) Jim is the primary beneficiary of the trust.
    - (ii) The Family Trustee shall take into consideration in determining Jim's needs any other income or resources known upon reasonable inquiry by the Family Trustee to be available to Jim for these purposes.
    - (iii) Settlor's intention to assist or enable Jim to obtain and furnish a home commensurate with his standard of living.
    - (iv) Settlor's intention to assist or enable Jim to obtain capital to enter a business or profession.
    - (v) Any federal, state or local income taxes imposed on Jim as a result of the income and/or gains from the trust
  - (b) <u>Distributions by Independent Trustee</u>. The Independent Trustee may, in its sole and absolute discretion, distribute to Jim so much of the income and principal of the trust as the Independent Trustee shall deem appropriate or advisable. It is Settlor's intention to give the Independent Trustee the broadest discretion possible in determining the amount and timing of distributions of income and principal hereunder and Settlor recognizes that the Independent Trustee may, in the exercise of its discretion, determine

to distribute the entire trust estate to Jim or to make no distributions to Jim during Jim's disability or for so long as Jim shall have a judgment outstanding, or for so long as any distribution might be lost to Jim's creditors. It is also Settlor's intention and desire for the Independent Trustee to consider any federal, state or local income taxes imposed on Jim as a result of the income and/or gains from the trust in determining the amount of distributions to be made to Jim under this subsection (b).

- (c) Inter Vivos Special Power of Appointment. During Jim's lifetime, he shall have a special power to appoint any part or all of the trust estate to any individual or entity, except that no appointment shall be made to Jim, his creditors, his estate, or the creditors of his estate. Valid appointments may be in such amounts and proportions and upon such terms and conditions as Jim shall determine and evidence by written instrument delivered to the Trustee which specifically refers to this power of appointment and expresses the intention to exercise it; provided that such power of appointment shall not extend to any life insurance policies insuring Jim's life that constitute a part of the trust estate; and provided further that Jim shall not have a power to appoint by deed to or for the benefit of Jim or any individual or entity if such appointment has the effect of satisfying Jim's contractual or legal obligations. Any exercise of this power of appointment must be made in an executed and acknowledged written instrument delivered to the Trustee which to be effective must refer specifically to the power granted under this Section 3.1(c).
- Independent Trustee's Power to Grant Testamentary General Power of Appointment. Except as otherwise provided herein, the Independent Trustee, by signed acknowledged instrument delivered to Jim, may grant Jim a testamentary general power of appointment (as defined in Sections 2041 of the Code) over part or all of the trust estate, provided, however, that such power of appointment shall only be effective in an amount up to but not in excess of the amount, if any, above which any further addition to the amount subject to the power of appointment would increase the Net Death Taxes (as hereinafter defined) by an amount equal to or greater than the decrease in the generation-skipping transfer tax that would result from such further addition. Unless Jim's will provides otherwise by express reference to this Trust Agreement and the above power of appointment, the increase in the Net Death Taxes resulting from such power shall be paid from that amount of the principal of the trust estate over which the power is exercisable. As used in this section, the term "Net Death Taxes" shall mean the aggregate death taxes (including, without limitation, Federal, state, local and other estate taxes and inheritance taxes but exclusive of interest and penalties), after taking into account all applicable credits, payable with respect to Jim's estate.
  - (i) If Jim has one or more other general powers of appointment exercisable and measured substantially as provided in subsection (d) above, the amount that Jim may appoint under subsection (d) shall be reduced proportionally, based on the net fair market values of the principal of the trusts with respect to which such powers are exercisable as of the date of Jim's death, so that the aggregate of the amount so appointable under this Trust Agreement and the amount or amounts so appointable pursuant to such other power or powers

together shall be no greater than the amount otherwise appointable under subsection (d) above.

- (ii) The scope and terms of the power shall be defined in the instrument. Before such a power is exercised by Jim and the exercise becomes effective, the Independent Trustee may, in a similar manner, revoke or alter the power which was granted. This power shall not apply if the trust has an inclusion ratio of zero for generation-skipping transfer tax purposes. Jim shall not have a general power of appointment over any part of the trust estate unless such power is specifically granted to Jim by the Independent Trustee pursuant to this subsection.
- (e) <u>Termination</u>. If not earlier terminated by distribution of the entire trust estate under the foregoing provisions, the trust shall terminate upon Jim's death. Upon termination of the trust, the Trustee shall distribute the balance of the trust estate as follows:
  - (i) <u>Pursuant to General Testamentary Power of Appointment</u>. This paragraph (i) shall apply if, but only if, the Independent Trustee grants Jim a general testamentary power of appointment pursuant to subsection (d) above and the Independent Trustee has not revoked the grant of that general power prior to the date of Jim's death. In that event, if Jim validly exercises such general testamentary power of appointment, the Trustee shall distribute so much of the trust estate then remaining as is validly appointed by Jim pursuant to such power in accordance with the terms of such appointment.
  - (ii) Special Testamentary Power of Appointment. This paragraph (ii) shall apply to so much of the trust estate then remaining as is not distributed pursuant to paragraph (i) above. The Trustee shall distribute the trust estate to such one or more individuals and entities, in such amounts and proportions and upon such terms and conditions, as Jim appoints by will or codicil which specifically refers to this power of appointment and expresses the intention to exercise it. However, Jim may not appoint to Jim, Jim's estate, Jim's creditors, or creditors of Jim's estate.
  - (iii) <u>Alternative Disposition</u>. The remaining and unappointed trust estate shall be held in trust or distributed as follows:
    - (1) If one or more of Jim's Descendants are then living, the Trustee shall divide the trust estate into separate equal shares, one for each then living Child and one for the then living Descendants, collectively, of each deceased Child with one or more Descendants then living. The Trustee shall administer a share for each Child in a separate trust for the primary benefit of the Child and for the Child's Descendants pursuant to Section 3.2 hereof. The Trustee shall administer a share for the Descendants of each deceased Child pursuant to Section 3.3 hereof.

- (2) If none of Jim's Descendants is then living, the trust estate shall be administered or distributed in accordance with Section 3.4 hereof.
- 3.2 <u>Trust for Child</u>. All property directed to be administered in a separate trust for a Child under this Section 3.2 shall be administered and distributed for the Child's benefit upon the following terms:
  - (a) <u>Distributions to Child</u>. The Trustee may distribute to the Child so much of the net income and principal of the trust as the Trustee deems necessary to provide for the Child's reasonable maintenance, support, health and education. In exercising its discretion, the Trustee shall take into account the following factors:
    - (i) The Child's standard of living at the creation of the trust.
    - (ii) The Child is the primary beneficiary of the trust.
    - (iii) The Trustee shall take into consideration, in determining the Child's needs, any other income or resources known upon reasonable inquiry by it to be available to the Child for these purposes.
    - (iv) Settlor's intention to enable or assist each Child to pursue vocational, college, graduate, and/or professional education as long as in the Trustee's judgment it is pursued to the Child's advantage and to receive an excellent earlier education.
    - (v) Settlor's intention that the trust distributions not serve as a disincentive to the Child's motivation to provide for her own needs in life.
  - (b) <u>Distributions to Child's Descendants</u>. The Trustee may distribute to the Child's Descendants so much of the net income and principal of the trust as the Trustee, in its discretion, deems necessary to provide for their reasonable maintenance, support, health and education. In exercising its discretion, the Trustee shall take into account the following factors:
    - (i) The primary purpose of the trust.
    - (ii) The respective needs of each Descendant.
    - (iii) The Trustee shall take into consideration, in determining a Descendant's needs, any other income or resources known upon reasonable inquiry by it to be available to the Descendant for these purposes.
    - (iv) Settlor's intention to enable or assist each Descendant to pursue vocational, college, graduate, and/or professional education as long as in the Trustee's judgment it is pursued to the Descendant's advantage and to receive an excellent earlier education.

(v) Settlor's intention that the trust distributions not serve as a disincentive to a Descendant's motivation to provide for his or her own needs in life, and Settlor's instruction to the Trustee to terminate or lessen distributions to a Descendant if that objective, in the judgment of the Trustee, would thereby be served.

Distributions hereunder need not be equal among the Descendants, and the Trustee may make distributions to one or more Descendants to the exclusion of others. Distributions shall be charged against the trust estate as a whole, and not against the distributive share of any Descendant upon termination of the trust.

- (c) <u>Inter Vivos Special Power of Appointment</u>. The Child, acting in the Child's individual capacity, shall have a special power to appoint the income and principal of the trust to or for the benefit of one or more members of the limited class consisting of the Descendants of the Children, in such amounts and proportions and upon such terms and conditions, as the Child shall direct; provided that the Child shall not have a power to appoint by deed to or for the benefit of any individual if such appointment has the effect of satisfying a contractual obligation or legal support obligation of the Child. This power of appointment may be exercised subject to such terms and conditions as the Child shall direct, including an appointment in further trust, but no trust created by the exercise of such power may extend beyond the maximum term allowable with respect to any trust created under this Trust Agreement. Any exercise of this power of appointment must be made in an executed and acknowledged written instrument delivered to the Trustee which to be effective must refer specifically to the power granted under this Section 3.2(c).
- (d) Termination. If not earlier terminated by distribution of the entire trust estate under the foregoing provisions, the trust shall terminate upon the death of the Child. Upon termination, the Trustee shall distribute the trust estate then remaining, or any part thereof, to such one or more members of the limited class consisting of Jim's Descendants, in such amounts and proportions and upon such terms and conditions, as the Child shall appoint by will or codicil which specifically refers to this power of appointment and expresses the intention to exercise it. However, the Child may not appoint to the Child, the Child's creditors, estate, or creditors of the Child's estate. The trust property not appointed by the Child in accordance with this special power of appointment shall be administered by the Trustees for the Child's then living Descendants pursuant to Section 3.3 hereof. If there are no Descendants of the Child then living, the Trustee shall distribute the remaining trust estate to Jim's then living Descendants, Per Stirpes. If any property is distributable to a person for whose benefit a trust which was established under this Trust Agreement is then being administered, the property shall be added to that trust and administered according to its terms. If no Descendant of Jim is then living, the Trustee shall administer or distribute the remaining trust estate pursuant to Section 3.4 hereof.
- 3.3 <u>Trusts for Descendants</u>. The Trustee shall divide property which is to be administered under this Section 3.3 for the Descendants of a deceased Child, among such

Descendants, Per Stirpes. The Trustee shall administer each share created for a Descendant of a deceased Child (the "Beneficiary") in a separate trust for the Beneficiary's benefit upon the following terms:

- (a) <u>Distributions</u>. The Trustee shall distribute to the Beneficiary so much of the net income and principal of the trust as the Trustee deems necessary for the Beneficiary's reasonable maintenance, support, health and education. In exercising its discretion, the Trustee shall take into account the following factors:
  - (i) The Beneficiary's standard of living at the creation of the trust.
  - (ii) The Beneficiary is the primary beneficiary of the trust.
  - (iii) The Trustee shall take into consideration, in determining the Beneficiary's needs, any other income or resources known upon reasonable inquiry by it to be available to the Beneficiary for these purposes.
  - (iv) Settlor's intention to enable or assist each Beneficiary to pursue vocational, college, graduate, and/or professional education as long as in the Trustee's judgment it is pursued to the Beneficiary's advantage and to receive an excellent earlier education.
  - (v) Settlor's intention that the trust distributions not serve as a disincentive to the Beneficiary's motivation to provide for his or her own needs in life.
- (b) <u>Distributions to Beneficiary's Descendants</u>. The Trustee may distribute to the Beneficiary's Descendants so much of the net income and principal of the trust as the Trustee, in its discretion, deems necessary to provide for their reasonable maintenance, support, health and education. In exercising its discretion, the Trustee shall take into account the following factors:
  - (i) The primary purpose of the trust.
  - (ii) The respective needs of each Descendant.
  - (iii) The Trustee shall take into consideration, in determining a Descendant's needs, any other income or resources known upon reasonable inquiry by it to be available to the Descendant for these purposes.
  - (iv) Settlor's intention to enable or assist each Descendant to pursue vocational, college, graduate, and/or professional education as long as in the Trustee's judgment it is pursued to the Descendant's advantage and to receive an excellent earlier education.
  - (v) Settlor's intention that the trust distributions not serve as a disincentive to a Descendant's motivation to provide for his or her own needs in

life, and Settlor's instruction to the Trustee to terminate or lessen distributions to a Descendant if that objective, in the judgment of the Trustee, would thereby be served.

Distributions hereunder need not be equal among the Descendants, and the Trustee may make distributions to one or more Descendants to the exclusion of others. Distributions shall be charged against the trust estate as a whole, and not against the distributive share of any Descendant upon termination of the trust.

- Inter Vivos Special Power of Appointment. The Beneficiary, acting in the Beneficiary's individual capacity, shall have a special power to appoint the income and principal of the trust to or for the benefit of one or more members of the limited class consisting of Jim's Descendants in such amounts and proportions and upon such terms and conditions, as the Beneficiary shall direct; provided that the Beneficiary shall not have a power to appoint by deed to or for the benefit of any individual if such appointment has the effect of satisfying a contractual obligation or legal support obligation of the Beneficiary. Furthermore, the Beneficiary may not appoint to the Beneficiary, the Beneficiary's creditors, estate or creditors of the Beneficiary's estate. This power of appointment may be exercised subject to such terms and conditions as the Beneficiary shall direct, including an appointment in further trust, but no trust created by the exercise of such power may extend beyond the maximum term allowable with respect to any trust created under this Trust Agreement. Any exercise of this power of appointment must be made in an executed and acknowledged written instrument delivered to the Trustee which to be effective must refer specifically to the power granted under this Section 3.3(c).
- (d) Termination. If not earlier terminated by distribution of the entire trust estate under the foregoing provisions, the trust shall terminate at the death of the Beneficiary. Upon termination, and except as otherwise provided pursuant to Section 3.5 hereof, the Trustee shall distribute the trust estate then remaining, or any part thereof to such one or more members of the limited class consisting of Jim's Descendants, in such amounts and proportions and upon such terms and conditions, as the Beneficiary shall appoint by will or codicil which specifically refers to this power of appointment and expresses the intention to exercise it. However, the Beneficiary may not appoint to the Beneficiary, the Beneficiary's creditors, estate or creditors of the Beneficiary's estate. The trust property not effectively appointed by the Beneficiary in accordance with this special power of appointment or pursuant to Section 3.5 hereof shall be distributed, Per Stirpes, to: the Beneficiary's Descendants living at the termination of the trust; or if there are no such Descendants then living, to the then living Descendants of the Child who was the parent of the Beneficiary; or if there are no such Descendants then living, to Jim's then living Descendants. If any property is distributable under this subsection to a Child, such property shall be added to the Child's Trust and administered pursuant to the terms of Section 3.2. If any property is distributable under this subsection to a Descendant of Jim (other than a Child), such property shall be administered in trust for such Descendant's benefit pursuant to the terms of this Section 3.3. If no Descendant of Jim is then living,

the Trustee shall administer or distribute the remaining trust estate pursuant to Section 3.4 hereof.

3.4 <u>Contingent Distribution</u>. If Jim and Jim's Descendants are all are deceased and no other disposition of the trust estate is called for in this Trust Agreement, the trust estate then remaining shall be distributed to those persons other than creditors and Settlor who, under the laws of Texas in force at that time, would have taken the personal property of Jim had he died intestate, a single person without Descendants, domiciled in the State of Texas, the moment after the event causing the distribution hereunder, the shares and proportions of taking to be determined by Texas laws.

#### 3.5 General Power of Appointment for Certain Beneficiaries.

- Except as provided in subsection (c) below, any provision of this Trust (a) Agreement to the contrary notwithstanding, at the death of any individual ("such beneficiary") at whose death the generation-skipping transfer tax would, but for the provisions of this section, be applicable with respect to any trust created under this Trust Agreement, the Trustees shall pay out of the principal of such trust such amount as such beneficiary, by express provision referring to this Trust Agreement and this power of appointment in his or her will, appoints, to or among such beneficiary's creditors, up to but not in excess of the amount, if any, above which any further addition to the amount subject to the power of appointment would increase the Net Death Taxes (as hereinafter defined) by an amount equal to or greater than the decrease in the generation-skipping transfer tax that would result from such further addition. Unless such beneficiary's will otherwise provides by express reference to this Trust Agreement and the above power of appointment, the increase in the Net Death Taxes resulting from such power shall be paid from that amount of the principal of such trust over which such power is exercisable. The foregoing provisions of this section shall be effective only if the Trustees make a determination that the generation-skipping transfer tax would not be applicable with respect to the amount of such trust over which such power is exercisable. As used in this section, the term "Net Death Taxes" shall mean "the aggregate death taxes (including, without limitation, federal, state, local and other estate taxes and inheritance taxes but exclusive of interest and penalties), after taking into account all applicable credits, payable with respect to the estate of such beneficiary."
- (b) If under the will of any individual or individuals and/or any other trust instrument or instruments, such beneficiary has one or more other general powers of appointment exercisable and measured substantially as provided in subsection (a) above, the amount such beneficiary may appoint under subsection (a) shall be reduced proportionally, based on the net fair market values of the principal of the trusts with respect to which such powers are exercisable as of the date of death of such beneficiary, so that the aggregate of the amount so appointable under this Trust Agreement and the amount or amounts so appointable pursuant to such other power or powers together shall be no greater than the amount otherwise appointable under subsection (a) above.

- (c) The provisions of this section shall not apply to the trust administered for Jim under Section 3.1.
- 3.6 <u>Postponement of Distribution</u>. Upon termination of any trust established hereunder, if any property is distributable to a beneficiary who is then under age twenty-five (25), or who, because of age, physical or mental weakness, or for any other reason is, in the sole discretion of the Trustee, unable to manage the property, the Trustee shall retain such property in a separate trust for the benefit of that beneficiary, until he or she attains age twenty-five (25) and in the sole discretion of the Trustee becomes able to manage the property. At that time, the remaining trust property shall be distributed to the beneficiary and the separate trust shall terminate. During the term of the trust, the Trustee shall distribute to the beneficiary so much of the net income and principal as the Trustee deems necessary to provide for the beneficiary's health, support, maintenance and education. If the beneficiary dies before the termination of the trust, the then remaining trust estate shall be distributed to the beneficiary's estate.

#### ARTICLE IV

#### PROVISIONS AFFECTING DISTRIBUTION

- 4.1 Withdrawal Right. Jim shall have the right, following a contribution to Jim's trust, to make a withdrawal in accordance with the provisions of this section unless the transferor indicates otherwise when making the transfer. A separate withdrawal right shall attach to each separate contribution of properties to Jim's trust. If a transferor is married at the time of contribution to the Trustee, then solely for purposes of the withdrawal rights granted in this Section 4.1, unless the transferor notifies the Trustee in writing to the contrary, such contribution shall be treated as two separate contributions having been made one-half (1/2) by the transferor and one-half (1/2) by the transferor's spouse, regardless of whether the property contributed is community property and regardless of whether they elect to treat such contribution as having been made one-half by each of them for Federal gift tax purposes. Any person making a contribution to Jim's trust may give the Trustee written instructions that no withdrawal right is to be granted, or that alternative withdrawal rights are to be granted with respect to the contribution being made.
  - (a) <u>Amount That May Be Withdrawn</u>. When a contribution is made, Jim may withdraw the lesser of the following amounts:
    - (i) the maximum present interest exclusion amount permitted, under Section 2503(b) of the Code, or any similar succeeding statute (such amount being \$12,000 at the date of execution of this Trust Agreement), less the cumulative value of all previous known gifts to or for the benefit of Jim by the same transferor during the same calendar year which would qualify for the present interest exclusion; or
    - (ii) the remainder determined by subtracting Jim's cumulative rights of withdrawal with respect to any other gifts from any transferor that are either

currently outstanding or that have previously lapsed (but not including the present right of withdrawal) during the same calendar year from the greater of (1) Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000), or (2) Five Percent (5%) of the total value of Jim's trust determined as of the date the current withdrawal power is to lapse (such value may be estimated by the Trustee), or (3) any greater withdrawal power, the lapse of which would not constitute a release of such power under Sections 2041(b)(2) and 2514(e) of the Code or any similar subsequent statute; or

- (iii) the value of the contribution that is subject to the withdrawal right.
- (b) Withdrawal Period and Notice. Unless directed to the contrary by the transferor, the Trustee shall promptly provide Jim with written notice of the date of the contribution, the name of the transferor, the value of the properties contributed, and the value of Jim's withdrawal right. Withdrawals may be made at any time for a period of thirty (30) days following Jim's receipt of the notice of the existence of the withdrawal right. During any period that Jim lacks legal capacity, Jim's guardian or other legal representative, other than Settlor, may exercise Jim's withdrawal right on Jim's behalf. If Jim does not exercise the withdrawal right before the expiration of that period, the unexercised right shall lapse. For purposes of this section, the term "contribution" means any cash or other property which is transferred to the Trustee as part of the trust estate. The value of any contribution to the trust estate shall be its value for federal gift tax purposes.
- (c) Payment of Withdrawal Amount. If Jim exercises his withdrawal right, payment of the amount due shall be made in cash immediately upon receipt by the Trustee of a demand in writing from Jim or his guardian or other legal representative, other than Settlor. Upon the exercise of a withdrawal right, payment shall be made, first, from any gifts made to Jim's trust prior to the exercise of such withdrawal right, but during the same calendar year in which the withdrawal right is exercised, and shall be charged against the trust. Should such gift or gifts not consist of sufficient cash to satisfy the exercised withdrawal right, the Trustee shall use other liquid assets of Jim's trust for such purpose. Should Jim's trust not contain sufficient liquid assets to satisfy an exercised withdrawal right when made, the Trustee shall borrow funds in order to satisfy the demand and shall, if necessary, pledge trust property to secure the loan.
- (d) <u>Distributions During Withdrawal Period</u>. If any contribution is made subject to a withdrawal right, the Trustee shall not make any distributions under any other provision of the Trust Agreement which would prevent the Trustee from being able to satisfy fully any unexpired right of withdrawal.
- (e) <u>Lapse of Withdrawal Right</u>. In the event Jim allows a withdrawal right granted under this Section 4.1 to lapse with respect to a contribution, or any portion thereof, the Trustee is authorized to characterize such lapse as a "release" for purposes of Section 678(a) of the Code.

- 4.2 <u>Restriction Upon Alienation</u>. No beneficiary may anticipate, by assignment or otherwise, his beneficial interest in the principal or income of the trust estate; nor may any beneficiary sell, transfer, encumber, or in any way charge his interest in trust income or principal prior to actually receiving it. Neither the income nor the principal of any trust established hereunder shall be subject to any execution, garnishment, attachment, bankruptcy, claims for alimony or support, other legal proceeding of any character, legal sequestration, levy or sale, or in any other event or manner be applicable or subject, voluntarily or involuntarily, to the payment of a beneficiary's debts. The Trustee shall make distributions to or for each beneficiary according to the terms hereof, notwithstanding any purported sale, assignment, hypothecation, transfer, attachment, or judicial process. The provisions of this section shall not limit or detract from any power of appointment or withdrawal right granted to any beneficiary herein.
- 4.3 <u>Distributions Constitute Separate Property</u>. Settlor intends to make a gift to each beneficiary hereunder of only that portion of the income and principal of each trust that is in fact distributed to such beneficiary. Inasmuch as the amounts actually distributed to a beneficiary hereunder constitute the gift Settlor contemplated making, such distributions, whether they be income or principal, shall constitute the separate property of such beneficiary and not the community property of such beneficiary. Furthermore, it is Settlor's intention that no beneficiary shall have any interest in any undistributed income or principal until the distribution of such income or principal and, accordingly, such undistributed income and principal shall not be deemed the community property of any such beneficiary and that beneficiary's spouse.
- 4.4 Method of Payment. The Trustee, in its discretion, may make distributions to any beneficiary, including a beneficiary who is under a physical, mental, or legal disability (minority or other), in any one or more of the following ways: directly to the beneficiary without the intervention of any legal guardian or other legal representative; as expenditures in the beneficiary's behalf; to the guardian, committee, conservator, or other similar official acting for the beneficiary; to a custodian for the beneficiary under a Uniform Transfers to Minors Act or Uniform Gifts to Minors Act; to a relative of the beneficiary or to any suitable person with whom the beneficiary resides or who has care or custody of the beneficiary; and in all ways provided by law for gifts or other transfers to or for minors or other persons under disability. In each case, receipt by the beneficiary or other person to whom payment is made or a distribution entrusted shall be a complete discharge of the Trustee with respect thereto. The Trustee may act upon such evidence as it deems appropriate and reliable in determining a beneficiary's ability to manage property and identifying a proper recipient of trust funds hereunder.
- 4.5 <u>Evidence of Need</u>. In exercising its discretion under this Trust Agreement, the Trustee shall be entitled to rely upon the written certification of a beneficiary or of another as to the nature and extent of a beneficiary's needs, and the adequacy of the beneficiary's resources apart from the trust to meet those needs. The Trustee may, but shall not be required to, make inquiry into the accuracy of the information it receives
- 4.6 <u>Termination of Small Trust</u>. Notwithstanding any provision of this Trust Agreement to the contrary, the Trustee may at any time terminate any trust when in its judgment the trust is so small that it would be inadvisable or uneconomical to continue the trust administration. In the event of termination, the Trustee shall distribute the trust to the income

beneficiaries of the trust determined at the time of distribution in the proportions to which they are entitled to receive income. If at that time rights to income are not fixed by the terms of the trust, distribution shall be made to the persons to whom the Trustee may then distribute income, in proportions determined in the Trustee's discretion, exercised consistently with the trust's purposes. Distribution of trust funds in the manner herein provided shall relieve the Trustee of any further responsibility with respect to such funds. This section shall not apply to a Trustee with respect to any trust of which such Trustee is a beneficiary, or if Trustee has duty to support the beneficiary or to any Trustee who may be removed and replaced by a beneficiary of the trust unless the successor trustee must be a corporate fiduciary or someone who is not related or subordinate to the beneficiary within the meaning of Section 672(c) of the Code. The provisions of this section shall not limit or detract from any withdrawal right granted to any beneficiary herein.

4.7 Generation-Skipping Transfer Taxes and Payment. It is Settlor's intent that the trusts created hereunder be exempt from Generation-Skipping Transfer Taxes. If, however, the Trustee considers any distribution or termination of an interest or power in a trust to be a taxable distribution (a "Distribution") or a taxable termination (a "Termination"), or a direct skip (a "Direct Skip") for generation-skipping transfer tax purposes, the Trustee may exercise the following authorities with respect to any such Distribution, Termination or Direct Skip. In the case of a Distribution, the Trustee may increase the amount to be distributed by an amount estimated to be sufficient to permit the beneficiary receiving such Distribution to pay the estimated generation-skipping tax attributable to such Distribution. Generally, the Trustee would not be expected to augment any partial terminating distribution in order to pay generation-skipping transfer taxes attributable to such partial terminating distribution from a trust. In the case of a Termination or Direct Skip, the Trustee shall pay the generation-skipping transfer tax attributable to such Termination or Direct Skip, and may postpone final termination of any trust or the complete funding of any Direct Skip, and may withhold all or any portion of the trust property, until the Trustee is satisfied it no longer has any liability to pay any generation-skipping transfer tax with reference to the Termination or Direct Skip. generation-skipping transfer tax is imposed in part by reason of property held in trust under a Settlor's will or codicil, and in part by reason of other property, the Trustee shall pay only the portion of such tax that is fairly attributable to the Distribution, Termination, or Direct Skip hereunder, taking into consideration deductions, exemptions, credits and other factors which the Trustee deems appropriate. The Trustee may, but need not make any equitable adjustments among beneficiaries of a trust as a consequence of additional distributions or generation-skipping transfer tax payments made with respect to Distributions or Terminations or Direct Skips.

#### ARTICLE V

#### THE TRUSTEE

5.1 <u>Resignation of Trustee</u>. The Trustee may resign as to any one or more of the trusts created hereunder by giving written notice to Settlor, if living; otherwise to the current income beneficiary of the trust.

# 5.2 Appointment and Succession of Trustees.

### (a) <u>Generally</u>.

- (i) Family Trustee. Jim is the initial Family Trustee of all trusts created hereunder. If Jim ceases to act as Family Trustee, or if any successor Family Trustee fails or ceases to act, Jim may appoint a successor Family Trustee within thirty (30) days of a vacancy arising. If Jim is deceased or if Jim otherwise fails to appoint a successor, GRANT JAMES SCOTT, III is appointed as successor Family Trustee. If GRANT JAMES SCOTT, III fails or ceases to act as Family Trustee, or if any other Family Trustee fails or ceases to act, and a successor is not appointed by Jim as provided above, JOHN WILLIAM HONIS is appointed as successor Family Trustee. If JOHN WILLIAM HONIS fails or ceases to act as Family Trustee, and a successor is not appointed by Jim as provided above, the Family Trustee last serving shall appoint a successor Family Trustee. If a successor Family Trustee is not appointed within sixty (60) days of a vacancy arising, the successor Family Trustee shall be appointed pursuant to the provisions of subsection (b) hereof.
- (ii) Independent Trustee. GRANT JAMES SCOTT, III is appointed as the initial Independent Trustee and shall begin serving as such upon delivery of a written acknowledged instrument to the Family Trustee wherein GRANT JAMES SCOTT, III accepts the trust and the position of Independent Trustee. If GRANT JAMES SCOTT, III, fails or ceases to act, or if any other Independent Trustee fails or ceases to act, Jim may appoint a successor within thirty days (30) of the vacancy arising; provided that Jim shall not serve as Independent Trustee and a successor Independent Trustee appointed by Jim may not be related or subordinate to Jim within the meaning of Section 672(c) of the Code. If a successor is not so appointed, JOHN WILLIAM HONIS is appointed Independent Trustee. If JOHN WILLIAM HONIS fails or ceases to act as Independent Trustee, and a successor is not appointed by Jim as provided above, the Independent Trustee last serving may appoint the successor Independent Trustee. If a successor Independent Trustee is not so appointed within sixty (60) days of a vacancy arising, a successor Independent Trustee shall be appointed pursuant to the provisions of subsection (b) hereof.
- (iii) Administrative Trustee. COMMONWEALTH TRUST COMPANY is the initial Administrative Trustee. If COMMONWEALTH TRUST COMPANY fails or ceases to serve, Jim may appoint a successor Administrative Trustee within thirty days (30) of the vacancy arising. If a successor is not so appointed, the Family Trustee may appoint a successor Administrative Trustee within sixty (60) days of the vacancy arising. If a successor is not so appointed, a successor shall be appointed in the same manner as provided for the Family Trustee under subsection (a) above. The selection of the Administrative Trustee can have a substantial impact on the situs of the trust, which should be considered in appointing a successor Administrative Trustee.

Notwithstanding any other provision in the Trust Agreement to the contrary, no Administrative Trustee may be appointed under this paragraph if the appointment of such Administrative Trustee would change the situs of the trust to a jurisdiction that has a rule against perpetuities or similar rule which limits the period during which property can be held in trust

The Administrative Trustee shall act in a fiduciary capacity but shall not be a Trustee or co-Trustee except to the extent and for the limited purposes described in Section 6.2. Accordingly, no reference in this Trust Agreement to the "Trustee" or "co-Trustee" shall include, or be deemed to refer to, the Administrative Trustee. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the same individual or bank or trust company may serve simultaneously as both a Trustee or co-Trustee and as Administrative Trustee for any trust created hereunder. The initial Administrative Trustee and each successor may resign at any time and may be removed at any time by the Family Trustee.

For services rendered as Administrative Trustee under this Agreement, any Administrative Trustee shall be entitled to reasonable compensation for his, her or its services, as well as be entitled to reimbursement for all expenses reasonably incurred in performing his, her or its duties hereunder. Any Administrative Trustee may receive (or retain) payment in accordance with its schedule or rates as published from time to time and as in effect at the time such compensation becomes payable, unless otherwise agreed in writing with the Family Trustee.

No termination fee shall be charged upon removal or resignation of an Administrative Trustee. However, such Administrative Trustee shall be entitled to reasonable compensation for time and materials for additional services over and above Administrative Trustee's normal duties in transferring trust assets and administration of the trust to the new Administrative Trustee.

- (b) <u>Successor Trustee</u>. If a named or appointed successor Trustee fails or ceases to serve and no other successor is named or appointed pursuant to subsection (a) hereof, a majority in number of the beneficiaries to whom the Trustee is to or may distribute income at that time may appoint the successor Trustee, and each shall have a reasonable time in which to act. If a successor Trustee is not so appointed, any beneficiary of a trust may secure the appointment of a successor Trustee by a court of competent jurisdiction at the expense of the trust estate.
- (c) <u>Manner of Appointment; Permissible Trustees</u>. Appointment, other than by a court, shall be by a signed, acknowledged instrument delivered to the appointed Trustee. An appointment may be made before a vacancy arises, to become effective in the event of the vacancy with the last such instrument to control. The successor Trustee appointed by Jim or a Trustee may be one or more persons and/or entities; provided that neither Settlor nor Jim shall serve as Independent Trustee and a successor Independent Trustee appointed by Jim may not be related or subordinate to Jim within the meaning of

Section 672(c) of the Code. Any other successor Trustee shall be a trust company or a bank in the United States having trust powers with not less than Fifty Million Dollars unimpaired capital and surplus. A successor Trustee shall have a reasonable time after a vacancy occurs in which to accept the office by signed, acknowledged instrument delivered to those making the appointment, if living, or to the then current beneficiaries to whom the Trustees are to or may make distributions.

- 5.3 Removal of Trustee. Jim shall have the power to remove the Trustee of any trust created hereunder, without cause. If Jim is deceased or if Jim is incapacitated within the meaning of Section 5.11 hereof, the primary beneficiary (or, if more than one, a majority of the primary beneficiaries) of a trust may remove any Trustee without cause. Removal shall be effected by delivering to the Trustee a signed acknowledged instrument which is effective thirty (30) days from its receipt (unless a shorter period is agreed to by the Trustee).
- 5.4 <u>Succession of Corporate Trustee</u>. If any corporate Trustee before or after qualification changes its name, becomes consolidated or merged with another corporation, or otherwise reorganizes, any resulting corporation which succeeds to the fiduciary business of such corporate Trustee shall become a Trustee hereunder in lieu of such corporate Trustee.
- 5.5 <u>Trustee's Fees</u>. Jim and Jim's Descendants shall not receive a fee for serving as Trustee. Any other Trustee shall be entitled to reasonable fees commensurate with its duties and responsibilities, taking into account the value and nature of the trust estate and the time and work involved. The Trustee shall be reimbursed for reasonable costs and expenses incurred in connection with its fiduciary duties hereunder.
  - 5.6 <u>Bond</u>. The Trustee shall not be required to furnish bond or other security.

#### 5.7 Liability of Trustee.

- (a) <u>Generally</u>. A Trustee other than a corporate trustee shall only be liable for willful misconduct or gross negligence, and shall not be liable for breach of fiduciary duty by virtue of mistake or error in judgment.
- (b) Administrative Trustee. Every act done, power exercised or obligation assumed by the Administrative Trustee pursuant to the provisions of this Agreement shall be held to be done, exercised or assumed, as the case may be, by the Administrative Trustee acting in a fiduciary capacity and not otherwise, and every person, firm, corporation or other entity contracting or otherwise dealing with the Administrative Trustee shall look only to the funds and property of the trust fund for payment under such contract or payment of any money that may become due or payable under any obligation arising under this Agreement, in whole or in part, and the Administrative Trustee shall not be individually liable therefor even though the Administrative Trustee did not exempt himself, herself or itself from individual liability when entering into any contract, obligation or transaction in connection with or growing out of the trust fund.

The decision of the Administrative Trustee hereunder with respect to the exercise or nonexercise by such Administrative Trustee of any power hereunder, or the time or manner of the exercise thereof, made in good faith, shall fully protect such Administrative Trustee and shall be final, conclusive and binding upon all persons interested in the Trust or the income therefrom. To the extent permitted under applicable law, the Administrative Trustee acting hereunder shall not be responsible for any error of judgment or mistake of fact or law, absent bad faith or willful misconduct.

The Administrative Trustee shall be liable hereunder only for the Administrative Trustee's bad faith or willful misconduct proved by clear and convincing evidence in the court then having primary jurisdiction over the trust. The Administrative Trustee shall not be personally liable for making any delegation that is authorized under this Agreement, nor for any action taken without the Administrative Trustee's express agreement, nor for any failure to act absent willful misconduct. The Administrative Trustee shall not be liable for relying absolutely on (i) any apparently valid documents and certifications including, but not limited to, tax reports and other tax information provided to the Administrative Trustee by any entity in which the trust fund holds an ownership interest; and (ii) the opinions of counsel or any accountant to any trust.

Prior to the death of Settlor, the Administrative Trustee shall be under no duty to inform any person having a beneficial interest in any trust created hereunder of the existence of any such trust or the nature and extent of that person's beneficial interest in, or rights with respect to, any such trust. Following the death of Settlor, the Administrative Trustee shall be under no duty to inform any person, other than the primary beneficiary of each trust hereunder, having a beneficial interest in any trust created hereunder of the existence of such trust or the nature and extent of that person's beneficial interest in, or rights with respect to, any such trust.

While not required, the same procedure used to settle the Administrative Trustee's accounts may also be employed to obtain the conclusive consent by the beneficiaries to the Administrative Trustee's specific conduct of any other particular matter. The Administrative Trustee and each former Administrative Trustee shall be indemnified and held harmless by each trust created hereunder against any threatened, pending or completed action, claim, demand, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative, falling within the exculpatory provisions of this Section or to which the Administrative Trustee is made a party, or threatened to be made a party, by reason of serving as Administrative Trustee if the Administrative Trustee acted in good faith, subject to the limitations set forth above. Such indemnification shall include expenses, including attorneys' fees, judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually incurred by the Administrative Trustee in connection with such action, claim, demand, suit or proceeding. The cost of indemnification shall be apportioned against the various trusts created hereunder as the Administrative Trustee reasonably considers appropriate, taking into account the nature of the claims involved.

The Administrative Trustee shall not have any fiduciary responsibility to observe, monitor or evaluate the actions of any Trustee or other fiduciary and shall not be liable to any party for the failure to seek to attempt to prevent a breach of trust, or failure to remedy a breach of trust, or in a recurring situation to request instructions from a court

having jurisdiction over the trust. In no event shall any Administrative Trustee hereunder be liable for any matter with respect to which he, she or it is not authorized to participate hereunder (including the duty to review or monitor trust investments).

Any Successor Administrative Trustee shall be deemed vested with all the duties, rights, titles and powers, whether discretionary or otherwise, as if originally named as Administrative Trustee. No Successor Administrative Trustee shall be personally liable for any act or failure to act of any predecessor Administrative Trustee or any other Trustee. The Successor Administrative Trustee may accept the account rendered and the property delivered by the predecessor Administrative Trustee as a full and complete discharge to the predecessor Administrative Trustee, without incurring any liability for so doing.

- 5.8 <u>Predecessor Fiduciary</u>. No successor Trustee shall be obligated or required to inquire into the acts, omissions, or accounts of any prior trustee or to bring any action against any prior trustee to compel redress of any breach of trust or for any other reason. In no event shall a successor Trustee be liable for any act or omission of any prior Trustee. A successor Trustee may accept the account rendered and the property received from a prior Trustee as a full and complete discharge to the prior Trustee without incurring any liability for doing so. A successor Trustee shall have all of the powers and discretions conferred in the governing instrument upon the original trustee.
- 5.9 <u>Periodic Accounting</u>. The Trustee may from time to time render an informal account, statement or report of its administration of each separate trust hereunder to each beneficiary who during the period covered by the account was entitled absolutely to a current payment of income or principal from the trust, or, if there is no such beneficiary, to such beneficiaries who are entitled absolutely or in the discretion of the Trustee to a payment of income or principal from the trust. If any beneficiary or legal representative or parent of a beneficiary who is not of full age or legal capacity to whom any such account is rendered shall not, within ninety (90) days after the mailing of such statement, have notified the Trustee in writing of its disapproval of the same, such statement shall be deemed to be approved

No Administrative Trustee shall be required to file or render periodic accounts in or to any court other than for good cause shown. No Administrative Trustee shall be required to give any bond.

Within 90 days following the close of each calendar year, if information is available, and if not within 30 days after it is delivered to the Administrative Trustee, and within 90 days after the removal or resignation of the Administrative Trustee, the Administrative Trustee may deliver an accounting to each primary beneficiary. The accounting shall be a written accounting of the trusts hereunder during such year or during the period from the close of the last preceding year to the date of such removal or resignation and shall set forth all investments, receipts, distributions, expenses and other transactions of each such trust and show all cash, securities, and other property held as a part of each such trust at the end of such year or as of the date of such removal or resignation, as the case may be. The accountings referred to in this Section shall be deemed to be an account stated, accepted and approved by all of the beneficiaries of each trust for which an

accounting is rendered, and the Administrative Trustee shall be relieved and discharged, as if such accounting had been settled and allowed by a final judgment or decree of a court of competent jurisdiction, unless protested by written notice to the Administrative Trustee, within 60 days of mailing thereof, by the person designated to receive such accounting. The Administrative Trustee shall have the right, at the expense of the trust, to apply at any time to a court of competent jurisdiction for judicial settlement of any account of the Administrative Trustee whether or not previously settled as herein provided or for the determination of any question of construction or for instructions. In any such action or proceeding it shall be necessary to join as parties solely the Administrative Trustee and the Settlor (although the Administrative Trustee may also join such other parties as it may deem appropriate), and any judgment or decree entered therein shall be conclusive and binding on all persons at any time interested in the trust.

- 5.10 <u>Beneficiary under Disability</u>. A parent, custodian, or guardian of any beneficiary who is under the disability of minority or, in the Trustee's opinion, any other legal, physical, or mental disability, may, in carrying out the provisions of this Trust Agreement, act and receive notice in the beneficiary's stead, and sign any instrument for the beneficiary.
- 5.11 <u>Incapacity of Individual Trustee</u>. In the event a Trustee other than a corporate Trustee becomes unable to discharge his duties as Trustee hereunder by reason of accident, physical or mental illness or deterioration, or other cause, and does not resign, then upon certification by two medical doctors affirming that each has examined the Trustee and that each has concluded, based on such examination, that he is unable to discharge his duties hereunder, the Trustee shall cease to serve, as if he had resigned, effective the date of the certification.

#### ARTICLE VI

#### TRUST ADMINISTRATION

- 6.1 <u>General Powers</u>. Subject to any limitation stated elsewhere in this Trust Agreement, and the division of powers contained in Section 6.2, the Trustee shall have, in addition to all powers granted to trustees by the common law and by Delaware statutes, as amended from time to time, the following powers with respect to each trust established hereunder:
  - (a) <u>Retain Property</u>. To retain any property received from any source, including any corporate Trustee's securities, regardless of lack of diversification, risk, or nonproductivity.
  - (b) <u>Invest</u>. To invest the trust estate in any kind of property, including common trust funds administered by a corporate Trustee or by others, without being limited by any statute or any rule of law dealing with the character, risk, productivity, diversification of, or otherwise concerning, investments by trustees.
  - (c) <u>Sell</u>. By public offering or private negotiation, to sell, exchange, assign, transfer, or otherwise dispose of all or any real or personal trust property and give options

for these purposes, for such price and on such terms, with such covenants of warranty and such security for deferred payment as the Trustee deems proper. To partition between the trust and any other owner, as the Trustee deems proper, any property in which the trust owns an undivided interest.

- (d) <u>Lease</u>. To lease trust property for terms within or extending beyond the term of the trust, for any purpose.
- (e) <u>Real Estate</u>. To operate, maintain, repair, rehabilitate, alter, erect, improve, or remove any improvements on real estate; to subdivide real estate; to grant easements, give consents, and enter into contracts relating to real estate or its use; and to release or dedicate any interest in real estate.
- (f) <u>Borrow</u>. To borrow money for any purpose either from the banking department of any corporate Trustee or from others; to encumber or hypothecate trust property by mortgage, deed of trust, or otherwise; and to maintain, renew, or extend any indebtedness upon such terms as the Trustee deems appropriate.
- (g) <u>Loans</u>. To lend money to any person or entity, including, but not limited to, a beneficiary hereunder, but not including a Settlor or a Trustee (other than a beneficiary serving as Trustee) hereunder, or a spouse of theirs, upon such terms and with such security as the Trustee deems advisable.
  - (h) Conserve Estate. To take any action to conserve the trust estate.
- (i) <u>Litigation</u>. To commence or defend at the expense of the trust such litigation with respect to the trust estate as the Trustee deems advisable.
- (j) <u>Claims</u>. To collect, pay, contest, compromise, settle, renew, or abandon any claims or demands of or against the trust estate without court authority on whatever terms the Trustee deems advisable.
- (k) <u>Abandon Property</u>. To abandon any property or interest in property belonging to the trust when, in the Trustee's discretion, such abandonment is in the best interest of the trust and its beneficiaries.
- (l) <u>Documents</u>. To execute contracts, notes, conveyances, and other instruments containing covenants, representations, or warranties binding upon and creating a charge against the trust estate or containing provisions excluding personal liability, or any other written instrument of any character appropriate to any of the powers or duties conferred upon the Trustee.
- (m) Agents. To employ attorneys, auditors, investment advisors, depositaries, and agents with or without discretionary powers, to employ a bank with trust powers as agent for the purpose of performing any ministerial duties incident to the administration, and to pay all expenses and fees so incurred.

- (n) <u>Securities</u>. To engage in all actions necessary to the effective administration of securities including, but not limited to, the authority to: vote securities in person or by proxy; engage in a voting trust or voting agreement; and consent to or participate in mergers, consolidations, sales of assets, recapitalizations, reorganizations, dissolutions, or other alterations of corporate structure affecting securities held in the trust.
- (o) <u>Nominee</u>. To hold securities and other property in bearer form or in the name of a trustee or nominee with or without disclosure of any fiduciary relationship.
- (p) <u>Additional Property</u>. To receive additional property from any source and add it to the trust estate.
- (q) <u>Insurance</u>. To carry insurance of such kinds and in such amounts as the Trustee deems advisable, except for insurance on the life of a Settlor, the Trustee, or a spouse of theirs. The Trustee shall not apply trust property to the payment of premiums on an insurance policy on the life of Settlor, the Trustee, or a spouse of theirs.

#### (r) <u>Business Powers</u>.

- (i) <u>In General</u>. To engage in any lawful business including, but not limited to, the power to continue at the risk of the trust estate the operation of any business which may become a part of the trust estate, and to sell, liquidate, or otherwise terminate any business interest, including, but not limited to, the fulfillment of any agreement for the disposition of any such business interest.
- (ii) <u>Closely Held Businesses</u>. This trust may be funded with, or subsequently purchase or otherwise acquire, securities or other financial interests in one or more closely held businesses (each of which is hereinafter referred to as the "business").
  - (1) Exoneration from Liability. It is realized that the business may not be the type of investment in which fiduciaries would normally invest estate or trust funds. Nonetheless, the Trustees shall incur no liability for any loss which may be sustained by reason of the retention, operation or sale of the business or the exercise of any power conferred upon the Trustees with respect to the business.
  - (2) <u>Management Powers</u>. The Family Trustee shall have the exclusive duty to deal with and manage the business. In addition to any power granted by law or elsewhere in this document, the Family Trustee shall have the following powers:
    - (A) To retain and continue the business or any interest therein for such time as the Family Trustee considers advisable;

- (B) To operate or participate in the operation of the business in the form of a corporation, limited liability company, partnership or proprietorship;
- (C) To direct, control, supervise, manage, operate or participate in the operation of the business; to serve as an officer and director of the business; and to receive from the business compensation for his services in addition to his compensation as a Family Trustee;
- (D) To delegate all or any part of his power to supervise, manage or operate the business to such persons as he may select, including any director, officer or employee of the business:
- (E) To engage, compensate and discharge such managers, employees, agents, attorneys, accountants, consultants or other representatives as he considers advisable, including anyone who may be a beneficiary or fiduciary of this Trust;
- (F) To invest or employ in the business, or to use as collateral for loans to the business, such other estate or trust funds as he considers advisable;
- (G) To sell, liquidate or otherwise dispose of all or any part of the business at such time or times, for such prices and upon such terms and conditions as he considers advisable, and to sell the business to anyone who is a beneficiary or a fiduciary of this Trust; and
- (3) <u>Exclusion from Powers</u>. Neither Commonwealth Trust Company nor any successor Administrative Trustee shall have any power, duty and/or responsibility in connection with the operation, control, supervision, management and participation of the business.
- (s) <u>Income and Principal</u>. To determine, in accordance with the provisions of Delaware law, what constitutes income and principal of the trust estate, the manner in which expenses and other charges shall be allocated between these accounts, and whether or not to establish reserves for depreciation or depletion, and to add undistributed income to principal.
- (t) <u>Tax Elections</u>. To exercise any tax option or election permitted by law as the Trustee determines, in its sole discretion, even though the effect is to treat beneficiaries hereunder differently, or to favor some at the expense of others. The Trustee may, but need not, make such compensating adjustments among beneficiaries with respect thereof as it deems appropriate considering the nature of the tax election and the amounts involved.

- (u) <u>Reliance</u>. To rely upon any notice, certificate, affidavit, or other document or evidence believed by the Trustee to be genuine and accurate, in making any payment or distribution. The Trustee shall incur no liability for a disbursement or distribution made in good faith and without actual notice or knowledge of a changed condition or status affecting any person's interest in the trust or any other matter.
- (v) <u>Commingling</u>. To commingle and invest as one fund, or make joint investments with, the principal of two or more separate trusts established hereunder, with each trust having an undivided interest therein.
- (w) <u>Division and Distribution</u>. To make all allocations, distributions, or divisions contemplated by this Trust Agreement; to allocate, distribute and divide different kinds or disproportionate shares of property or undivided interests in property among the beneficiaries or trusts, in cash or in kind, or both, without regard to the income tax basis of specific property allocated to any beneficiary or trust, even though shares may as a result be composed differently, and to determine the value of any property so allocated, divided or distributed.
- (x) <u>Withholding of Distribution</u>. To withhold from distribution all or any part of the trust property as long as the Trustee, in its discretion, determines that such property may be subject to conflicting claims, to tax deficiencies, or to liabilities, contingent or otherwise, properly incurred in the administration of the trust.
- (y) <u>Mineral Powers</u>. To retain or acquire interests in oil, gas, or other mineral resources; to execute as to those interests any agreements, assignments, contracts, deeds, grants or leases for any term (even though the term may extend beyond the termination of the trust); to manage, control, operate, explore, mine, develop, or take any action for the production, recovery, sale, treatment, storage, or transportation of any such interest; to drill, rework, or recomplete wells of any type; to conduct or participate in secondary recovery operations; to enter into agreements for pooling or unitization; and to install, operate, or participate in the operation of any plant, mine, or other facility.
- (z) Environmental Hazards. To use and expend the trust income and principal to (i) take all appropriate action to prevent, identify, or respond to actual or threatened violations of any environmental law or regulation for which the Trustee may have responsibility, including the authority to conduct environmental assessments, audits, and site monitoring to determine compliance with any environmental law or regulation; (ii) take all appropriate remedial action to contain, cleanup, or remove any environmental hazard including a spill, release, discharge, or contamination, either on its own accord or in response to an actual or threatened violation of any environmental law or regulation; (iii) institute legal proceedings concerning environmental hazards or contest or settle legal proceedings brought by any local, state, or federal agency concerned with environmental compliance, or by a private litigant; and (iv) comply with any local, state, or federal agency order or court order directing an assessment, abatement, or cleanup of any environmental hazards.

- (aa) <u>Miscellaneous Powers</u>. Generally to do and perform any and all acts, things, or deeds which, in the discretion of the Trustee, may be necessary or proper for the protection, preservation, and promotion of the trust properties and estate.
- 6.2 <u>Division of Powers</u>. The powers and duties granted under this Trust Agreement shall be divided among the Trustees as follows:
  - (a) <u>Administrative Trustee</u>. The Administrative Trustee shall have the following exclusive duties, which shall all be carried out in the State of Delaware or such other jurisdiction as the Trustee shall, from time to time, select as the situs of the trust:
    - (i) To maintain bank accounts, brokerage accounts and other custody accounts which receive trust income and contributions and from which trust expenditures and distributions are disbursed.
    - (ii) To maintain storage of tangible personalty and evidence of intangible trust property.
      - (iii) To maintain trust records.
    - (iv) To maintain an office for Trustee meetings and other trust business.
    - (v) To originate, facilitate and review trust accountings, reports and other communications with the Settlor, any co-Trustees, beneficiaries and unrelated third parties.
    - (vi) To respond to inquiries concerning the trust from the Settlor, any co-Trustees, beneficiaries and unrelated third parties.
      - (vii) To execute documents with respect to trust account transactions.
    - (viii) To retain accountants, attorneys, investment counsel, agents and other advisers in connection with the performance of its duties under this Section 6.2.
  - (b) <u>Independent Trustee</u>. The Independent Trustee shall have all of the powers and duties specifically assigned to the Independent Trustee under this Trust Agreement. These powers may only be exercised by the Independent Trustee.
  - (c) <u>Family Trustee</u>. The Family Trustee shall possess and exercise all of the powers and duties of the Trustee not specifically granted to the Administrative Trustee or the Independent Trustee under this Trust Agreement, including those specifically assigned to the Family Trustee. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Family Trustee shall exercise all Trustee authority and have all Trustee responsibility with respect to the investment of the trust estate. If there is no Family Trustee serving,

however, all of the powers and duties of the Trustee, including those assigned to the Family Trustee, shall be exercised and discharged by the Independent Trustee.

- 6.3 Merger of Trusts. If at any time a Trustee of any trust created pursuant to this Trust Agreement shall also be acting as Trustee of any other trust created by trust instrument or by will for the benefit of the same beneficiary or beneficiaries and upon substantially the same terms and conditions, the Trustee is authorized and empowered, if in the Trustee's discretion such action is in the best interest of the beneficiary or beneficiaries of the trust created hereunder, to transfer and merge all of the assets then held under such trust created pursuant to this Trust Agreement to and with such other trust and thereupon and thereby to terminate the trust created pursuant to this Trust Agreement. The Trustee is further authorized to accept the assets of the other trust which may be transferred to the Trustee of the trust created hereunder and to administer and distribute such assets and properties so transferred in accordance with the provisions of this Trust Agreement. If the component trusts differ as to contingent beneficiaries and the contingency occurs, the funds may be distributed in such shares as the Trustee, in the Trustee's sole discretion, shall deem necessary to create a fair ratio between the various sets of remaindermen. If any trust created in this Trust Agreement is merged with any trust created under any other instrument, such merged trust shall not continue beyond the date on which the earliest maximum term of the trusts so merged would, without regard to such merger, have been required to expire. Settlor further directs that, as to any property at any time a part of any trust estate (including a merged trust) as to which under the laws of any state applicable to said property that trust is required to be terminated at any time prior to its normal termination date, the trust as to that particular property shall terminate at the time required by the laws of said state.
- 6.4 <u>Certain Powers and Rights Limited</u>. Settlor intends that the trust created under Section 3.1 hereof shall not be included in Jim's gross estate for estate tax purposes unless the Independent Trustee grants Jim a general power of appointment pursuant to paragraph 3.1(d). All issues applicable to the trust shall be resolved accordingly.
- 6.5 GST Inclusion Ratio. If property not having an inclusion ratio for purposes of the generation-skipping transfer tax equal to zero is directed to be added to a trust which has an inclusion ratio equal to zero, the Trustee may decline to make the addition and may, instead, administer the property as a separate trust with provisions identical to the trust having an inclusion ratio equal to zero. If property having an inclusion ratio for purposes of the generation-skipping transfer tax equal to zero is directed to be added to a trust which has an inclusion ratio not equal to zero, the Trustee may decline to make the addition and may, instead, administer the property as a separate trust with provisions identical to the trust having an inclusion ratio not equal to zero.
- 6.6 Out-of-State Properties. If any trust property is situated in a jurisdiction in which the Trustee is unable or unwilling to act, the Trustee may appoint an ancillary trustee for such jurisdiction and may confer upon the ancillary trustee such powers and discretions, exercisable without court order, to act with respect to such property as the Trustee deems proper. The ancillary trustee shall be responsible to the Trustee for all property it administers. The Trustee

may pay the ancillary trustee reasonable compensation for its services and may absolve it from any requirement to furnish bond or other security.

- Management of Real Property. The Family Trustee (or the Independent Trustee pursuant to Section 6.2(c) hereof), acting alone, shall make any and all decisions regarding: (i) the acquisition, retention and disposal of real estate; (ii) the operation, maintenance, repair, rehabilitation, alteration, construction, erection, improvement, or removal of any improvements on real estate; (iii) the subdivision of real estate; (iv) the granting of easements, giving of consents, and entering into contracts relating to real estate or its use; (v) the release or dedication of any interest in real estate; and (vi) the payment of taxes, utilities, and maintenance expenses attributable to real estate owned by any trust created hereunder. The Family Trustee (or the Independent Trustee pursuant to Section 6.2(c) hereof) may, in its discretion, either exercise such powers or appoint an ancillary trustee to exercise such powers. The Trustee may pay the ancillary trustee reasonable compensation for its services and may absolve it from any requirement to furnish bond or other security.
- 6.8 <u>No Court Supervision</u>. The Trustee shall not be required to qualify before or be appointed by any court; nor shall the Trustee be required to obtain the order or approval of any court in the exercise of any power or discretion.
- 6.9 <u>Division of Trusts</u>. The Trustee may divide any trust established by this Trust Agreement into two or more separate trusts as provided in this section. Settlor exonerates the Trustee from any liability arising from the exercise or failure to exercise any powers granted herein, provided the Trustee acts in good faith.
  - (a) <u>Division and Funding of Separate Trusts</u>. The Trustee may divide any trust established by this Trust Agreement, at any time, into two or more separate trusts so that the generation-skipping transfer tax inclusion ratio as defined in Section 2642(a) of the Code for each trust shall be either zero or one. Any such division shall be accomplished in accordance with applicable regulations under Chapter 13 of the Code.
  - (b) Administration of Separate Trusts. Such separate trusts shall have the identical provisions as the original trust. However, with respect to each separate trust, the Trustee may: (1) make different tax elections, (2) expend principal and exercise any other discretionary powers with respect to such separate trusts differently, (3) invest such separate trusts differently, and (4) take all other actions consistent with such trusts being separate trusts.
  - (c) <u>Powers of Appointment</u>. The donee of any power of appointment with respect to a trust so divided may exercise such power of appointment differently with respect to the separate trusts created by the division.
- 6.10 <u>Limitation of Powers</u>. The following limitations, affecting the administration of the trusts created hereunder, apply notwithstanding any other provision of this Trust Agreement. For purposes of this Section 6.10, the term "Settlor" shall include any individual who contributes property to the Trustee to be added to the trust estate.

- (a) <u>Support Duty</u>. Distributions from the trust estate shall not be made which discharge, in whole or in part, the personal legal obligations of a Settlor or a Trustee from time to time existing, to support or educate any of the trust beneficiaries. When determining these legal obligations, the existence of this trust and funds made available by it shall not be taken into consideration.
- (b) <u>Adequacy of Consideration</u>. No party may, through purchase, exchange, or otherwise, deal with or dispose of the corpus or the income of the trust estate for less than adequate consideration in money or money's worth.
- (c) <u>Insurance</u>. The Trustee shall not apply trust property to the payment of premiums on an insurance policy on the life of a Settlor, the Trustee or a spouse of either of them.
- (d) <u>Borrow</u>. The Trustee shall not allow a Settlor to borrow trust principal or income, directly or indirectly, without adequate interest or security.
- (e) <u>Substitute Property</u>. The Trustee shall not allow a Settlor to reacquire or exchange any property of the trust estate by substituting other property with an equivalent value.
- (f) <u>Vote</u>. A Settlor, acting as a Trustee, shall not be entitled to vote, directly or indirectly, shares of stock of a controlled corporation, as defined under Section 2036 of the Code, which is held as part of the trust estate.
- 6.11 <u>Dealing with Fiduciaries</u>. The Trustee may enter into any transaction with the Trustee or beneficiaries of the trusts created hereunder, acting in their individual or in another fiduciary capacity, or with any person or entity related to the Trustee or a beneficiary in any manner, if such transaction is otherwise authorized under this Trust Agreement. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing authorization, the Trustee may enter into any transaction otherwise authorized hereunder on behalf of any trust created hereunder even though the other party to the transaction is: a trust of which a beneficiary or Trustee under this Trust Agreement is a beneficiary or trustee, including, but not limited to, any trust established by this Trust Agreement; an estate of which a beneficiary or Trustee under this Trust Agreement is a representative or beneficiary; or a business or charitable corporation of which a beneficiary or Trustee under this Trust Agreement is a director, officer, employee, or owner.

#### ARTICLE VII

#### **IRREVOCABILITY**

This Trust Agreement and each of its provisions may not be revoked, amended, or modified.

#### ARTICLE VIII

#### MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

- 8.1 Applicable Law. The trust created under this Trust Agreement shall be deemed a Delaware trust and all matters pertaining to the validity, construction, and application of this Trust Agreement or to the administration of the trust created hereunder shall, in all respects, be governed by the laws of the State of Delaware. However, if the Trustee, in its sole discretion, determines that a change of situs would be beneficial to the purposes of the trust established by this Trust Agreement, the Trustee shall have the discretion and authority to change the situs of any such trust to another state. No change of situs shall be authorized herein, however, which would result in a termination of the trust for federal tax purposes. Furthermore, the Trustee shall not be entitled to change the situs of the trust to a jurisdiction that has a rule against perpetuities or similar rule which limits the period during which property can be held in trust. Any proceeding involving the Trust must be brought in the State of Delaware for so long as the situs of the Trust shall be the State of Delaware.
- Perpetuities Provision. The trust created hereunder shall be perpetual to the 8.2 fullest extent permitted by Delaware law. If the trust created hereunder is deemed to be subject to the law of a jurisdiction that has a rule against perpetuities or similar rule which limits the period during which property can be held in trust, then such trust shall terminate in all events upon the expiration of the longest period the property may be held in trust under this Agreement under the law of such jurisdiction (including any application periods in gross, such as 110 years, 360 years, or 1,000 years); provided, however, that if the jurisdiction has a rule against perpetuities or similar rule which applies only to certain types of property, such as real property, the provisions of this Section shall apply only to such property. If under the law of such jurisdiction the longest period that property may be held in trust is determined with reference to the death of the last survivor of a group of individuals in being upon the date of this Trust Agreement, those individuals shall consist of Jim and Jim's Descendants who are in being on the date of this Trust Agreement. Upon termination of a trust pursuant to the provisions of this Section 8.2, the Trustee shall distribute such trust to its income beneficiaries determined at the time of distribution. If at that time rights to income are not fixed by the terms of the trust, distribution shall be made to the persons to whom the Trustee may then distribute income, in proportions determined in the Trustee's discretion, exercised consistently with the trust's purposes.

In the event any trust created hereunder owns real property, and if such real property is subject to a rule against perpetuities or similar rule which limits the period during which property can be held in trust, then the Trustee shall take such action as is necessary to avoid termination of the trust with respect to that real property interest including, without limitation, selling the real property or contributing the real property to a business entity in exchange for ownership interests in such entity to be owned by the trust.

8.3 <u>Gestation</u>. A child in gestation who is born alive shall be considered a child in being throughout the period of gestation.

- 8.4 <u>Survivorship</u>. Any person must survive by thirty (30) days for a gift made in this Trust Agreement which directly or indirectly requires such person's survival of another to be effective.
- 8.5 Release of Powers and Interests. Any person, including a beneficiary and a Trustee, shall have the power to disclaim, release, or restrict, irrevocably, in whole or in part, any interest, right, power, or discretion granted to such person with respect to any trust by signed instrument delivered to the Trustee, or in any other manner permitted by law. Any person designated or appointed as a Trustee may, prior to accepting the trust, by written instrument decline to accept any right, power, or discretion with respect to the trust and may accept the trust without such right, power, or discretion.

## 8.6 Powers of Appointment.

- (a) <u>Capacity in Which Exercisable</u>. Every power of appointment granted to a beneficiary under this Trust Agreement is exercisable by that beneficiary in the beneficiary's individual capacity, notwithstanding the fact that the beneficiary may also be serving as a Trustee of the trust.
- (b) Manner of Appointment. Every power of appointment granted herein: (i) shall be personal to the donee of such power and may not be exercised on behalf of the donee by any other person, including an attorney-in-fact, a guardian, or any other court appointed representative, and (ii) may be exercised in whole or in part and in favor of one or more potential beneficiaries to the exclusion of others. Appointment may be outright or in further trust, with all provisions determined by the donee of the power, and may confer a power of appointment upon the beneficiary or others, if within the constraints imposed by any applicable rule against perpetuities and any other law which is applicable to the appointment.
- (c) Exercise of Inter Vivos Power. An inter vivos power of appointment granted in this Trust Agreement may be exercised only by a written instrument, executed and acknowledged by the donee and delivered to the Trustee during the donee's lifetime, which specifically refers to the power of appointment and expresses the intention to exercise it. If no such instrument is delivered to the Trustee during the donee's lifetime, upon the donee's death the Trustee may distribute the property subject to the power in the manner provided in this Trust Agreement for distribution in default of exercise.
- (d) Determination of the Exercise of a Testamentary Power. The Trustee may rely upon any instrument admitted to probate as a will or codicil in determining whether a testamentary power of appointment granted herein has been exercised. If no will or codicil is brought to the Trustee's attention within ninety (90) days of a death to indicate the exercise of a testamentary power, the Trustee may distribute the property subject to the power according to the terms herein provided for distribution in default of exercise. The Trustee will be protected from liability for its actions as authorized in this subsection (d), but this subsection does not affect a beneficiary's rights in the property subject to the power of appointment.

- (e) <u>Tax Consequences</u>. The exercise of a power of appointment may have important tax consequences. The donee of any power of appointment should consult with counsel before exercising such power of appointment.
- 8.7 <u>Liability of Third Party</u>. No person paying money or delivering property to the Trustee need see to the application of such money or property. No person dealing with the Trustee need inquire into the propriety of any transaction or the Trustee's authority to enter into and consummate the same.
- 8.8 <u>Use of Words</u>. As used in this Trust Agreement, the masculine, feminine, and neuter gender, and the singular or plural of any word each includes the others unless the context indicates otherwise.
- 8.9 <u>Unenforceable Provision</u>. If any provision of this Trust Agreement is unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall be given effect, unless to do so would produce an unreasonable result.
- 8.10 <u>Titles, Headings, and Captions</u>. All titles, headings, and captions used in this Trust Agreement have been included for administrative convenience only and should not be construed in interpreting this Trust Agreement.
- 8.11 <u>Counterpart Signatures</u>. This document may be executed in counterparts, and all counterparts so executed shall constitute a single document, notwithstanding that the interested parties are not or may not be signatories to the original or to the same counterpart.
- 8.12 <u>Trust Name</u>. The trusts established under Article II of this Trust Agreement, collectively, shall be known as the "The Dugaboy Investment Trust".
- IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Settlor, the Family Trustee and the Administrative Trustee have hereunto set their hands on the day and year first above written in multiple originals. The Trustees agree to administer the trust estate in accordance with the terms of this Trust Agreement. The Independent Trustee shall begin serving as such upon delivery of a written acknowledged instrument to the Family Trustee in accordance with Section 5.2 hereof.

Dana Scott Meault 23 Oct 12 DANA SCOTT BREAULT, Settlor

STATE OF TEXAS

§ 8

COUNTY OF DALLAS

8

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared DANA SCOTT BREAULT, as Settlor, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing Trust Agreement and acknowledged to me that she executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE this 23 day of October, 2010.

Notary Public

RAVI IYER
Notary Public, State of Texas
My Commission Expires
June 12, 2013

JAMES D. DONDERO, Family Prustee

STATE OF TEXAS

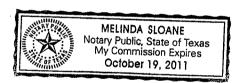
§ § §

COUNTY OF DALLAS

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared JAMES D. DONDERO, as Family Trustee, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing Trust Agreement and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE this 14 of October, 2010.

Notary Public



COMMONWEALTH TRUST COMPANY, Administrative Trustee

	]	By:_ <i>_Cyn.H</i> Name: Title:	Cynthia D. M. Brown President	<i>)</i>	
STATE OF DELAWARE	<i>\$</i>				
COUNTY OF NEW CASTLE	§				
BEFORE ME, the Cynthia D. M. Brown			on this day own to me to be		
whose name is subscribed to executed the same for the COMMONWEALTH TRUST	purposes and COMPANY a	considera and in the ca	tion therein expacity therein ex	pressed as pressed. Nove	the act of mber LMD
GIVEN UNDER MY H	AND AND S	EAL OF O	FFICE this 15th	_day of <b>Ø</b> č®	96er, 2010.
		AU Notary Pub	aMOw lic	nd willing	WWISS OF
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5480300v.6 47609/1					OTARY PURIL

#### THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST James D. Dondero, Family Trustee

August 26, 2015

Dana Scott Breault 5207 Scarborough Lane Dallas, Texas 75287

Cynthia D. M. Brown, President Commonwealth Trust Company 29 Bancroft Mills Road #2 Wilmington, Delaware 19806

Re: The Dugaboy Investment Trust

Dear Ms. Breault,

I, James D. Dondero, am writing to inform you that on August 26, 2015, I will cease to serve as Family Trustee of The Dugaboy Investment Trust (the "Trust") and shall stop performing all duties and responsibilities undertaken as Family Trustee of the Trust.

Pursuant to the attached Resignation of Family Trustee, I appoint Grant James Scott as the successor Family Trustee of the Trust.

This letter and the attached Resignation of Family Trustee shall satisfy my obligations under Section 5.1 of that Trust Agreement entered into on November 15, 2010 to provide you, Settlor, with written notice of my resignation.

Very truly yours,

James D. Dondero

#### RESIGNATION OF FAMILY TRUSTEE

I, JAMES D. DONDERO, do hereby acknowledge that I voluntarily tender my resignation as Family Trustee of The Dugaboy Investment Trust pursuant to that Trust Agreement, dated November 15, 2010 by, between and among Dana Scott Breault, as Settlor, and Common Wealth Trust Company, as Administrative Trustee.

I appoint GRANT JAMES SCOTT as the successor Family Trustee. This resignation shall take effect immediately upon the execution hereof and delivery of a written acknowledged instrument wherein Grant James Scott accepts the trust and the position of Family Trustee.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereby sign my Resignation as Family Trustee of the above trust.

Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of:

Family Trustee

8.26.15 Date

STATE OF TEXAS

§

COUNTY OF DALLAS

Before me, a notary public, on this day personally appeared **JAMES D. DONDERO** known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

Given under my hand and seal of office this 26th day of August, 2015.

MICAELA SUE ALLEN
Notary Public, State of Texas
My Commission Expires
January 15, 2019

Notary Public's Signature

Expiration: 1-15-2019

#### ACCEPTANCE OF APPOINTMENT OF FAMILY TRUSTEE

I, GRANT JAMES SCOTT, appointed as Family Trustee under Article V, Section 5.2(a)(i) of The Dugaboy Investment Trust, dated November 15, 2010 (the "Trust"), hereby acknowledge and accept the position of Family Trustee of the Trust and hereby agree to faithfully perform all the duties and adopt all of the obligations imposed.

Signed this 26 th day of August, 2015.

GRANT JAMES SCOTT Family Trustee

STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF DALLAS §

Before me, a notary public, on this day personally appeared **GRANT JAMES SCOTT** known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

Given under my hand and seal of office this \_26 day of August, 2015.

[SEAL]

Notary Public's Signature

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES MAY 17, 2018

Expiration:

Lipita

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF DELIVERY

I, JAMES D. DONDERO, acknowledge that this Acceptance of Appointment of Family Trustee was delivered to and received by me on August 24 2015.

James D. Dondero

# Exhibit D

### BONDS ELLIS EPPICH SCHAFER JONES LLP

ATTORNEYS & COUNSELORS

D. MICHAEL LYNN | D: 817.405.6915 | MICHAEL.LYNN@BONDSELLIS.COM

February 1, 2021

#### Via Email and First Class Mail:

Jeffrey Pomerantz
Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP
10100 Santa Monica Blvd., 13<sup>th</sup> Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90067
Email: jpomerantz@pszjlaw.com

Re: Highland Capital Management, L.P.: notes receivable from Dondero et al.

#### Dear Jeff:

The Debtor recently commenced suit to collect on certain notes payable to it executed by Mr. Dondero and certain of his affiliates. As you are aware, in addition to other defenses, Mr. Dondero views the notes in question as having been given in exchange for loans by Highland made in lieu of compensation to Mr. Dondero.

Please ensure that any transferee of any of the notes is made aware of Mr. Dondero's position and that the Independent Board receives copies of this letter. I thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

D. Michael Lynn

Cc: Jim Dondero

John Bonds

Douglas Draper

Davor Rukavina

Lee Hogewood

John Kane

Jason Rudd

Lauren Drawhorn

# Exhibit E

November 30, 2020

NexPoint Advisors, L.P. 200 Crescent Court, Suite 700 Dallas, Texas 75201

RE: Termination of Amended and Restated Shared Services Agreement, dated January 1, 2018, and among Highland Capital Management, L.P. ("HCMLP"), and NexPoint Advisors, L.P. (the "Agreement").

To Whom It May Concern:

As set forth in Section 7.01 of the Agreement, the Agreement is terminable at will upon at least 30 days advance written notice.

By this letter, HCMLP is notifying you that it is terminating the Agreement. Such termination will be effective January 31, 2021. HCMLP reserves the right to rescind this notice of termination.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.

/s/ James P. Seery, Jr.

James P. Seery, Jr. Chief Executive Officer Chief Restructuring Officer

## Exhibit 2

Clay M. Taylor Bryan C. Assink

BONDS ELLIS EPPICH SCHAFER JONES LLP 420 Throckmorton Street, Suite 1000

Fort Worth, Texas 76102 (817) 405-6900 telephone (817) 405-6902 facsimile

Email: clay.taylor@bondsellis.com Email: bryan.assink@bondsellis.com

**Attorneys for James Dondero** 

Davor Rukavina
Julian P. Vasek
MUNSCH HARDT KOPF & HARR, P.C.
500 N. Akard Street, Suite 3800
Dallas, Texas 75202-2790
(214) 855-7500 telephone
(214) 978-4375 facsimile
Email: drukavina@munsch.com

Attorneys for NexPoint Advisors, L.P. and Highland Capital Management Fund Advisors, L.P.

Deborah Deitsch-Perez Michael P. Aigen STINSON LLP 3102 Oak Lawn Avenue, Suite 777

Dallas, Texas 75219 (214) 560-2201 telephone (214) 560-2203 facsimile

Email: deborah.deitschperez@stinson.com Email: michael.aigen@stinson.com

Attorneys for James Dondero, Nancy Dondero, Highland Capital Management Services, Inc. and NexPoint Real Estate Partners, LLC

#### IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS DALLAS DIVISION

In re:	§ Case No. 19-34054
	§
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.	§ Chapter 11
	§
Debtor.	§
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§
monember of the manufacture, e.g.,	§
Plaintiff,	§ Adv. Proc. No. 21-03003-sgj
T minute,	§
vs.	§
100	§
JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND THE	§
DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST,	§
Dogrador in the initial interior,	§
Defendants.	§

ACTIVE 48197723v1

HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§ §
Plaintiff,	§ § Adv. Proc. No. 21-03004-sgj
vs.	§ §
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT FUND ADVISORS, L.P.,	\$ \$ \$ \$
Defendant.	8 8
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§ § §
Plaintiff,	§ §
vs.	§ Adv. Proc. No. 21-03005-sgj §
NEXPOINT ADVISORS, L.P., JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST,	\$ \$ \$ \$
Defendants.	\$ \$ \$
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§ §
Plaintiff,	§ § Adv. Proc. No. 21-03006-sgj
vs.	<b>§</b> <b>§</b>
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC., JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY	\$ \$ \$ \$
INVESTMENT TRUST,	§
Defendants.	§ §
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§ § Adv. Proc. No. 21-03007-sgj
Plaintiff, vs.	<b>§</b> <b>§</b>
HCRE PARTNERS, LLC (n/k/a NexPoint Real Estate Partners, LLC), JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST,	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$
Defendants.	§

#### **DECLARATION OF NANCY M. DONDERO**

- I, Nancy Marie Dondero, declare under penalty of perjury pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746 that the following is true and correct:
- 1. I reside in Vero Beach, Florida and am over the age of 21. The following facts are based on my personal knowledge and are all true and correct. I am willing and able to testify about these matters if and when called upon to do so.
- 2. I have successfully owned and operated my own private investigation services business for over 30 years. I also have an undergraduate college degree from Pennsylvania State University, which included the study of basic business operations and management.
- I am also the Family Trustee of The Dugaboy Investment Trust ("Dugaboy"), and I have held that position since October 2015. A true and correct copy of the document appointing me as Family Trustee is attached to this Declaration as Exhibit A. At the times that the notes discussed below were entered into, Dugaboy owned and represented a majority of the Class A shareholders in Highland Capital Management, L.P. ("Highland Capital"). Jim Dondero is my brother and was, at that time, the President and CEO of Highland Capital. I understood that he was one of the founders of Highland Capital and, through The Dugaboy Investment Trust, a majority interest holder.
- 4. Jim Dondero told me about his current and previous annual salaries at Highland Capital and explained that he was substantially underpaid as compared to other senior executives in the financial services industry. He told me that his annual salary from Highland Capital had been around \$500,000 to \$700,000 during the preceding several years. I had no reason to doubt the accuracy of what he told me about his compensation from Highland Capital or how that compared unfavorably to the compensation of others in similar positions with other companies in

the industry.

- 5. Jim Dondero also advised me that he and certain of his affiliated companies had, on several occasions between 2013 and 2019, borrowed money from Highland Capital and had issued demand and term promissory notes in favor of Highland Capital regarding those loans. He proposed that Highland Capital enter into an agreement with him and the other borrowers to forgive the Notes upon the occurrence of certain conditions subsequent, as a form of additional contingent compensation to him.
- 6. In either December of 2017 or January of 2018, I caused Dugaboy (solely in my capacity as Dugaboy's Family Trustee) to cause Highland Capital to enter into the first of a series of verbal agreements with Jim Dondero that provided that the repayment obligation on the notes made in 2017 involved in this litigation would be forgiven if Highland Capital sold any of Trussway, Cornerstone, or MGM for a price greater than its cost, or if any of those portfolio companies were sold in a circumstance that was outside of Jim Dondero's control. I fully understood the implications and terms of this Agreement.
- 7. At either the end of 2018 or the beginning of 2019, Jim Dondero and I later entered into the same Agreement to apply to subsequent notes that were issued by him or one of his affiliated companies to Highland Capital in 2018. I also fully understood the implications and terms of this Agreement.
- 8. At either the end of 2019 or the beginning of 2020, Jim Dondero and I again entered into the same agreement to cover and apply to the notes at issue in this litigation that were issued in 2019. All the Notes referenced herein are collectively referred to as the "Notes," and the agreements between Highland Capital and Jim regarding all of the Notes are collectively referred to herein as the "Agreements." I also fully understood the implications and terms of these

#### Agreements. The Notes are as follows:

- i. A demand note executed on February 2, 2018, between Highland Capital and Jim Dondero in the amount of \$3,825,000.<sup>1</sup>
- ii. A demand note executed on August 1, 2018, between Highland Capital and Jim Dondero in the amount of \$2,500,000.<sup>2</sup>
- iii. A demand note executed on August 13, 2018, between Highland Capital and Jim Dondero in the amount of \$2,500,000.<sup>3</sup>
- iv. A demand note executed on March 28, 2018, between Highland Capital and Highland Capital Management Services, Inc. ("HCMS") in the amount of \$150,000.<sup>4</sup>
- v. A demand note executed on June 25, 2018, between Highland Capital and HCMS in the amount of \$200,000.<sup>5</sup>
- vi. A demand note executed on May 29, 2019, between Highland Capital and HCMS in the amount of \$400,000.6
- vii. A demand note executed on June 26, 2019, between Highland Capital and HCMS in the amount of \$150,000.<sup>7</sup>
- viii. A demand note executed on October 12, 2017, between Highland Capital and HCRE Partners, LLC ("HCRE") in the amount of \$2,500,000.8
- ix. A demand note executed on October 15, 2018, between Highland Capital and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Pl. Appx. 00678-679.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Pl. Appx. 00681-682.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Pl. Appx. 00684-685.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Pl. Appx. 00118-119.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Pl. Appx. 00121-122.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Pl. Appx. 00124-125.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Pl. Appx. 00127-128.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Pl. Appx. 00205-206.

ACTIVE 48197723v1

HCRE in the amount of \$750,000.9

- x. A demand note executed on September 25, 2019, between Highland Capital and HCRE in the amount of \$900,000. 10
- xi. A term note executed on May 31, 2017, between Highland Capital and NexPoint Advisors, L.P. ("NexPoint"), in the amount of \$30,746,812.33.<sup>11</sup>
- xii. A term note executed on May 31, 2017, between Highland Capital and HCMS in the amount of \$20,247,628.02.<sup>12</sup>
- xiii. A term note executed on May 31, 2017, between Highland Capital and HCRE in the amount of \$6,059,831.51.<sup>13</sup>
- 9. At the time I caused Highland Capital to enter into each of the Agreements, I knew that Highland Capital was a hedge fund and that its general partner was Strand Advisors, Inc. I also knew that Highland Capital owned an interest in each of Cornerstone, MGM, and Trussway, the portfolio companies that were involved in the Agreements. I also knew that Highland Capital's business included buying and selling portfolio companies at a profit. I also knew and believed that Jim would be the person most involved in, and responsible for, the marketing and eventual sale of Cornerstone, MGM, and Trussway by Highland Capital. I also knew and believed that executives in the financial services industry tend to be paid more when the companies they work for perform better.
- 10. The Agreements had two primary purposes, both of which would benefit Highland Capital's performance and reputation. First, the Agreements would provide additional incentive

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Pl. Appx. 00208-209.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Pl. Appx. 00211-212.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Pl. Appx. 00042-43.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Pl. Appx. 00134-135.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Pl. Appx. 00218-219.

and motivation to Jim Dondero to attempt to maximize the value and return to Highland Capital on Trussway, Cornerstone, and MGM, and to remain in Plaintiff's employment. Second, the Agreements would allow Highland Capital to contingently increase Jim Dondero's compensation without requiring additional cash or salary to be paid to him and the consequential effect of such an increase on Highland Capital's financial position.

- 11. At the time I caused Highland Capital to enter into each of the Agreements, I did not know every detail about every aspect of Highland Capital's business or the Notes. However, I did have all of the facts and information I considered necessary, appropriate, and reasonable for my decision (solely in my capacity as Dugaboy's Family Trustee) to cause Highland Capital to enter into each of the Agreements. I do not believe that Highland Capital, Dugaboy, or I were deceived or mislead in any manner by Jim Dondero or anyone else regarding the Notes or any of the Agreements.
- 12. At the time I caused Highland to enter into each of the Agreements, I appreciated the effect of what I was doing and I understood the nature and consequences of those acts. I was not mentally incompetent, under a legal guardianship, intoxicated, or under any other mental impairment.
- 13. At the time I caused Highland Capital to enter into each of the Agreements, I believed I had the authority, as the Dugaboy Family Trustee, to cause Dugaboy to cause Highland Capital to enter into the Agreements. I also intended, believed, and expected that each of the Agreements would be a binding and enforceable agreement between Highland Capital and Jim Dondero.

Case 21-03003-sgj Doc 155 Filed 01/20/22 Entered 01/20/22 22:22:12 Desc Main Case 3:21-cv-00881-X Docum**Potcline20** Filed 01/20/22 52:22:12 Desc Main Case 3:21-cv-00881-X Docum**Potcline20** Filed 01/20/22 Entered 01/20/22 22:22:12 Desc Main Case 3:21-cv-00881-X Docum**Potcline20** Filed 01/20/22 Entered 01/20/22 22:22:12 Desc Main Case 3:21-cv-00881-X Docum**Potcline20** Filed 01/20/22 Entered 01/20/22 22:22:12 Desc Main Case 3:21-cv-00881-X Docum**Potcline20** Filed 01/20/22 Entered 01/20/22 22:22:12 Desc Main Case 3:21-cv-00881-X Docum**Potcline20** Filed 01/20/20 Entered 01/20/22 22:22:12 Desc Main Case 3:21-cv-00881-X Docum**Potcline20** Filed 01/20/20 Entered 01/20/22 22:22:12 Desc Main Case 3:21-cv-00881-X Docum**Potcline20** Filed 01/20/20 Entered 01/20/20 Entered 01/20/22 22:22:12 Desc Main Case 3:21-cv-00881-X Docum**Potcline20** Filed 01/20/20 Entered 01/20/20 Enter

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on January 20, 2022.

Nancy M. Dondero

## Exhibit A

### THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST James D. Dondero, Primary Beneficiary

October 12, 2015

Dana Scott Breault 5207 Scarborough Lane Dallas, Texas 75287

Cynthia D. M. Brown, President Commonwealth Trust Company 29 Bancroft Mills Road #2 Wilmington, Delaware 19806

Re: The Dugaboy Investment Trust

Dear Ms. Breault,

I, James D. Dondero, am writing to inform you that on October 12, 2015, I received notice from Grant James Scott that he will cease to serve as Family Trustee of The Dugaboy Investment Trust (the "Trust") and shall stop performing all duties and responsibilities undertaken as Family Trustee of the Trust.

Pursuant to the attached Resignation of Family Trustee from Grant James Scott, I appoint Nancy Marie Dondero as the successor Family Trustee of the Trust.

This letter and the attached Resignation of Family Trustee shall satisfy my obligations under Section 5.2 of that Trust Agreement entered into on November 15, 2010 to provide you, Settlor, with notice of my appointment of a successor Family Trustee.

James D. Dondero

Very truly you

**DEFENDANT 000037** 

## THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST Grant James Scott, Family Trustee

October 12, 2015

Dana Scott Breault 5207 Scarborough Lane Dallas, Texas 75287

Cynthia D. M. Brown, President Commonwealth Trust Company 29 Bancroft Mills Road #2 Wilmington, Delaware 19806

Re: The Dugaboy Investment Trust

Dear Ms. Breault,

I, Grant James Scott, am writing to inform you that as of October 12, 2015, I will cease to serve as Family Trustee of The Dugaboy Investment Trust (the "**Trust**") and shall stop performing all duties and responsibilities undertaken as Family Trustee of the Trust pursuant to the attached Resignation of Family Trustee.

This letter and the attached Resignation of Family Trustee shall satisfy my obligations under Section 5.1 of that Trust Agreement entered into on November 15, 2010 to provide you, Settlor, with written notice of my resignation.

Grant James Scott

Very truly yours.

#### RESIGNATION OF FAMILY TRUSTEE

I, **GRANT JAMES SCOTT**, do hereby acknowledge that I voluntarily tender my resignation as Family Trustee of The Dugaboy Investment Trust pursuant to that Trust Agreement, dated November 15, 2010 by, between and among Dana Scott Breault, as Settlor, and Common Wealth Trust Company, as Administrative Trustee.

This resignation shall take effect immediately upon the execution hereof and delivery of a written acknowledged instrument wherein NANCY MARIE DONDERO accepts the trust and the position of Family Trustee.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereby sign my Resignation as Family Trustee of the above trust.

Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of:

Family Trustee

10/12/2015 Date

STATE OF TEXAS

§ §

COUNTY OF DALLAS

Before me, a notary public, on this day personally appeared **GRANT JAMES SCOTT** known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

Given under my hand and seal of office this // day of October, 2015.

MICAELA SUE ALLEN
Notary Public, State of Texas
My Commission Expires
January 15, 2019

Notary Public's Signature

[SEAL]

Expiration: January 15, 2

#### ACCEPTANCE OF APPOINTMENT OF FAMILY TRUSTEE

I, NANCY MARIE DONDERO, appointed as Family Trustee under Article V, Section 5.2(a)(i) of The Dugaboy Investment Trust, dated November 15, 2010 (the "Trust"), hereby acknowledge and accept the position of Family Trustee of the Trust and hereby agree to faithfully perform all the duties and adopt all of the obligations imposed.

Signed this 13th day of October, 2015.

NANCY MARIE DONDERO
Family Trustee

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF DALLAS §

Before me, a notary public, on this day personally appeared **NANCY MARIE DONDERO** known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that she executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

Given under my hand and seal of office this / day of October, 2015.

MICAELA SUE ALLEN
Notary Public, State of Texas
My Commission Expires
January 15, 2019

[SEAL]

Notary Public's Signature

Expiration: January 15, 2019

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF DELIVERY

I, JAMES D. DONDERO, acknowledge that this Acceptance of Appointment of Family Trustee by NANCY MARIE DONDERO was delivered to and received by me on October \_\_\_, 2015.

James D. Dondero

## Exhibit 3

Clay M. Taylor Bryan C. Assink

BONDS ELLIS EPPICH SCHAFER JONES LLP

420 Throckmorton Street, Suite 1000

Fort Worth, Texas 76102 (817) 405-6900 telephone (817) 405-6902 facsimile

Email: clay.taylor@bondsellis.com Email: bryan.assink@bondsellis.com

**Attorneys for James Dondero** 

Davor Rukavina Julian P. Vasek MUNSCH HARDT KOPF & HARR, P.C. 500 N. Akard Street, Suite 3800 Dallas, Texas 75202-2790 (214) 855-7500 telephone (214) 978-4375 facsimile Email: drukavina@munsch.com Deborah Deitsch-Perez Michael P. Aigen STINSON LLP 3102 Oak Lawn Avenue, Suite 777 Dallas, Texas 75219 (214) 560-2201 telephone (214) 560-2203 facsimile

Email: deborah.deitschperez@stinson.com Email: michael.aigen@stinson.com

Attorneys for James Dondero, Nancy Dondero, Highland Capital Management Services, Inc. and HCRE Partners, LLC

Attorneys for NexPoint Advisors, L.P. and Highland Capital Management Fund Advisors, L.P.

#### IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS DALLAS DIVISION

DALLAS	DIVISION
In re:	§ Case No. 19-34054
	§
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.	§ Chapter 11
	<b>§</b>
Debtor.	§
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§
HIGHLAND CAFITAL MANAGEMENT, L.F.,	<b>§</b>
Plaintiff,	§ Adv. Proc. No. 21-03003-sgj
riamun,	<b>§</b>
vs.	<b>§</b>
<b>vs.</b>	§
JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND	§
THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST,	§
THE DUGADOT HAVESTMENT TRUST,	<b>§</b>
Defendants.	§

CORE/3522697.0002/172204224.1 App. 93

HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§ 8
	§ §
Plaintiff,	\$ \$
	8 § Adv. Proc. No. 21-03005-sgj
vs.	8 8
	\$ \$
NEXPOINT ADVISORS, L.P., JAMES	\$ \$
DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND	» 8
THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST,	8
	\$ \$
Defendants.	\$ \$
	§
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§
DL-24266	<b>§</b>
Plaintiff,	§ Adv. Proc. No. 21-03006-sgj
	§
VS.	§
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT	§
SERVICES, INC., JAMES DONDERO,	§
NANCY DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY	§
INVESTMENT TRUST,	§
INVESTMENT INOSI,	§
Defendants.	§
Defendants.	§
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§
indicate of the first with the control of the contr	§ Adv. Proc. No. 21-03007-sgj
Plaintiff,	<b>§</b>
VS.	§
150	§
HCRE PARTNERS, LLC (n/k/a NexPoint Real	§
Estate Partners, LLC), JAMES DONDERO,	§
NANCY DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY	§
INVESTMENT TRUST,	§
,	§
Defendants.	§
	§

### <u>DECLARATION OF MICHAEL P. AIGEN IN SUPPORT OF DEFENDANTS'</u> <u>OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT</u>

Michael P. Aigen, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746(a), under penalty of perjury, declares as follows:

1. I am a member of the law firm of Stinson LLP, counsel to Defendant James Dondero, Highland Capital Management Services, Inc. and HCRE Partners, LLC n/k/a NexPoint Real Estate Partners, LLC, and I submit this Declaration in support of the *Defendants' Opposition to Plaintiff Highland Capital Management, L.P.'s Motion for Partial Summary Judgment*, which

CORE/3522697.0002/172204224.1 App. 94

is being filed concurrently with this Declaration. I submit this Declaration based on my personal

knowledge and the documents listed below.

2. Attached as **Exhibit A** is a true and correct copy of the Transcript of the Video

Deposition of James P. Seery, Jr. taken on October 21, 2021 in Adv. Proc. No. 21-03005.

3. Attached as **Exhibit** B is a true and correct copy of the Transcript of the Remote

Deposition of Bruce McGovern taken on November 9, 2021 in Adv. Proc. No 21-03003.

4. Attached as **Exhibit C** is a true and correct copy of a List of Promissory Notes,

bates labeled DEFENDANTS-0000434, that was used by Mr. Dondero at his deposition and

produced to Plaintiff.

5. Attached as **Exhibit D** is a true and correct copy of an email from F. Waterhouse

to K. Hendrix, dated November 25, 2020.

6. Attached as **Exhibit E** is a true and correct copy of an email from F. Waterhouse

to K. Hendrix, dated December 31, 2020.

7. Attached as **Exhibit F** is a true and correct copy of the Expert Report of Steven J.

Pully, dated December 10, 2021.

8. Attached as **Exhibit G** is a true and correct copy of the Expert Report of Alan M.

Johnson, dated May 28, 2021.

9. Attached as **Exhibit H** is a true and correct copy of Highland Capital Management,

L.P.'s Responses and Objections to Defendants' Joint Discovery Requests, dated September 27,

2021.

Dated: January 20, 2022

/s/Michael P. Aigen

Michael P. Aigen

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# Exhibit A

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Page 1
 1
 2
         IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
           FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
                    DALLAS DIVISION
 4
     In re:
                                       ) Chapter 11
     HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.) Case No.
 5
                                       ) 19-34054-sqj11
 6
                     Debtor.
 7
     HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.)
 8
                      Plaintiff,
 9
                                       ) Adversary
             -vs-
10
                                       ) Proceeding No.
     NEXPOINT ADVISORS, L.P., JAMES ) 21-03005-sgj
     DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND THE )
11
     DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST,
12
                      Defendants.
13
14
15
16
       VIDEO DEPOSITION OF JAMES P. SEERY, JR.
17
                  New York, New York
              Thursday, October 21, 2021
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
     Reported by:
     MARIANNE WITKOWSKI-SMITH
25
    JOB NO. 201192
```

1		Page 2		Page 3
2		2	APPEARANCES:	
3		3 4		
4	October 21, 2021	5	PACHULSKI STANG ZIEHL & JONES	
5	2:02 p.m.	6	Attorneys for Highland Capital Management LP and the Witness	
6	2.02 p.m.	7	and the withess	
7			780 Third Avenue	
8	Video Deposition of JAMES P. SEERY, JR.,	8	New York, New York 10017	
9	individually and on behalf of HIGHLAND CAPITAL	9	DV. TOUR MODDIG TOO	
10	MANAGEMENT LP, held at the offices of Pachulski	10	BY: JOHN MORRIS, ESQ.	
11	Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP, 780 Third Avenue, New		GREGORY DEMO, ESQ.	
12	York, New York, before Marianne Witkowski-Smith,	11	HAYLEY WINOGRAD, ESQ.	
13	a Shorthand Reporter and Notary Public of the	12		
14	State of New York.	13		
15	State of New York.		MUNSCH HARDT KOPF & HARR	
16		15	Attorneys for NexPoint Advisors LP	
17		16		
18		17	500 North Akard Street	
19			Dallas, Texas 75201	
20		18	BY: DAVOR RUKAVINA, ESQ.	
21		19	21 Silvoit Rolan Zilli, 25g.	
22		20	THOMAS BERGHMAN, ESQ.	
23		21		
24		22 23		
25		24		
		25	(Continued on Next Page)	
1		Page 4	T. G	Page 5
2	APPEARANCES (Cont'd):		<b>.</b>	
3		2		
4 5	STINSON			
6	Attorneys for James Dondero, Nancy Dondero,	4		
7	HCRE, HCMS	5	200-1 0-7, 0 0 0	
′	3102 Oak Lawn Avenue	6		
8	- 11	7	,	
9	Dallas, Texas 75219	8	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
	BY: DEBORAH DEITSCH-PEREZ, ESQ.	10	2	
10		10	certified legal videographer from TSG	
11	MICHAEL AIGEN, ESO	11	Doporting Ing The government of	
1 **	MICHAEL AIGEN, ESQ.	11		
12	MICHAEL AIGEN, ESQ.	12	Marianne Smith, in association with TSG	
		12 13	Marianne Smith, in association with TSG Reporting.	
12	HELLER, DRAPER, HAYDEN, PATRICK, & HORN	12 13 14	Marianne Smith, in association with TSG Reporting.  Counsel, please introduce	
12 13		12 13 14 15	Marianne Smith, in association with TSG Reporting.  Counsel, please introduce yourselves.	
12 13	HELLER, DRAPER, HAYDEN, PATRICK, & HORN	12 13 14 15	Marianne Smith, in association with TSG Reporting. Counsel, please introduce yourselves. MR. RUKAVINA: My name is Davor	
12 13	HELLER, DRAPER, HAYDEN, PATRICK, & HORN  Attorneys for The Dugaboy Investment Trust  650 Poydras Street	12 13 14 15 16	Marianne Smith, in association with TSG Reporting. Counsel, please introduce yourselves. MR. RUKAVINA: My name is Davor Rukavina. I represent NexPoint	
12 13 14 15 16	HELLER, DRAPER, HAYDEN, PATRICK, & HORN Attorneys for The Dugaboy Investment Trust	12 13 14 15 16 17	Marianne Smith, in association with TSG Reporting. Counsel, please introduce yourselves. MR. RUKAVINA: My name is Davor Rukavina. I represent NexPoint Advisors LP.	
12 13 14 15	HELLER, DRAPER, HAYDEN, PATRICK, & HORN  Attorneys for The Dugaboy Investment Trust  650 Poydras Street	12 13 14 15 16 17 18	Marianne Smith, in association with TSG Reporting. Counsel, please introduce yourselves. MR. RUKAVINA: My name is Davor Rukavina. I represent NexPoint Advisors LP. MR. MORRIS: My name is John	
12 13 14 15 16 17	HELLER, DRAPER, HAYDEN, PATRICK, & HORN  Attorneys for The Dugaboy Investment Trust  650 Poydras Street  New Orleans, Louisiana 70130	12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19	Marianne Smith, in association with TSG Reporting. Counsel, please introduce yourselves. MR. RUKAVINA: My name is Davor Rukavina. I represent NexPoint Advisors LP. MR. MORRIS: My name is John Morris from Pachulski Stang Ziehl &	
12 13 14 15 16	HELLER, DRAPER, HAYDEN, PATRICK, & HORN  Attorneys for The Dugaboy Investment Trust  650 Poydras Street  New Orleans, Louisiana 70130	12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	Marianne Smith, in association with TSG Reporting.  Counsel, please introduce yourselves.  MR. RUKAVINA: My name is Davor Rukavina. I represent NexPoint Advisors LP.  MR. MORRIS: My name is John Morris from Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones, on behalf of Capital Highland	
12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	HELLER, DRAPER, HAYDEN, PATRICK, & HORN  Attorneys for The Dugaboy Investment Trust  650 Poydras Street  New Orleans, Louisiana 70130  BY: WARREN HORN, ESQ.	12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	Marianne Smith, in association with TSG Reporting. Counsel, please introduce yourselves. MR. RUKAVINA: My name is Davor Rukavina. I represent NexPoint Advisors LP. MR. MORRIS: My name is John Morris from Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones, on behalf of Capital Highland Capital Management LP, and I'm	
12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	HELLER, DRAPER, HAYDEN, PATRICK, & HORN  Attorneys for The Dugaboy Investment Trust  650 Poydras Street  New Orleans, Louisiana 70130  BY: WARREN HORN, ESQ.  ALSO PRESENT: MANUEL GARCIA, Legal Video Specialist	12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	Marianne Smith, in association with TSG Reporting.  Counsel, please introduce yourselves.  MR. RUKAVINA: My name is Davor Rukavina. I represent NexPoint Advisors LP.  MR. MORRIS: My name is John Morris from Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones, on behalf of Capital Highland Capital Management LP, and I'm representing the witness, James P.	
12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	HELLER, DRAPER, HAYDEN, PATRICK, & HORN  Attorneys for The Dugaboy Investment Trust  650 Poydras Street  New Orleans, Louisiana 70130  BY: WARREN HORN, ESQ.	12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	Marianne Smith, in association with TSG Reporting.  Counsel, please introduce yourselves.  MR. RUKAVINA: My name is Davor Rukavina. I represent NexPoint Advisors LP.  MR. MORRIS: My name is John Morris from Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones, on behalf of Capital Highland Capital Management LP, and I'm representing the witness, James P. Seery, Jr., today.	

1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	Deborah Deitsch-Perez from Stinson LLP.	2	laptop in front of you because this is being
3	I'm on with my partner, Michael Aigen,	3	done remotely as well, but you're not
4	also from Stinson. We're representing	4	reviewing any material or taking any
5	James Dondero, Nancy Dondero, HCRE and	5	information or texts or emails like that, are
6	HCMS.	6	you?
7	MR. HORN: Warren Horn	7	A. No.
8	[inaudible].	8	Q. Okay. It's fair to say you've
9	(Reporter clarification.)	9	been
10	MR. HORN: Warren Horn, H-O-R-N,	10	A. I I have a phone in front of me,
11	with Heller, Draper & Horn,	11	but I don't intend to use it.
12	representing The Dugaboy Investment	12	Q. Okay. Fair to say that you've been
13	Trust.	13	deposed before?
14	VIDEO TECHNICIAN: Will the court	14	A. I have.
15	reporter please swear in the witness.	15	Q. Approximately how many times?
16	JAMES P. SEERY, JR.,	16	A. More more than twenty-five.
17	the witness herein, was thereupon duly	17	Q. Okay. And quite a number in this
18	sworn by the Notary Public and was	18	case as well, correct?
19	examined and testified as follows:	19	A. More than probably more than
20	EXAMINATION	20	fifteen.
21	BY MR. RUKAVINA:	21	Q. Okay. The only thing I'd ask -
22	Q. Sir, good afternoon.	22	you're you're a veteran - is I have an
23	State your name, please.	23	accent and sometimes I talk fast, so don't
24	A. James P. Seery, Jr.	24	don't hesitate to tell me that you didn't
25	Q. And just so we're clear, you have a	25	understand or ask me to rephrase, please.
	Page 8		Page 9
		1	rage 9
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
1 2	J. Seery Please don't hesitate to do that.	1 2	= 1
1	-		J. Seery A. I believe I have, yes. Q. Okay. And are you familiar with
2	Please don't hesitate to do that.	2	J. Seery A. I believe I have, yes.
2 3 4 5	Please don't hesitate to do that.  A. Thank you.  Q. Sir, just for the record, where do you live?	2 3 4 5	J. Seery A. I believe I have, yes. Q. Okay. And are you familiar with the topics I've designated in here? MR. MORRIS: I think this is
2 3 4 5 6	Please don't hesitate to do that.  A. Thank you.  Q. Sir, just for the record, where do you live?  A. I live in New York City, Upper West	2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery A. I believe I have, yes. Q. Okay. And are you familiar with the topics I've designated in here? MR. MORRIS: I think this is missing a page.
2 3 4 5 6 7	Please don't hesitate to do that.  A. Thank you.  Q. Sir, just for the record, where do you live?  A. I live in New York City, Upper West Side.	2 3 4 5	J. Seery A. I believe I have, yes. Q. Okay. And are you familiar with the topics I've designated in here? MR. MORRIS: I think this is
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	Please don't hesitate to do that.  A. Thank you.  Q. Sir, just for the record, where do you live?  A. I live in New York City, Upper West Side.  Q. Do you have any real estate or	2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery A. I believe I have, yes. Q. Okay. And are you familiar with the topics I've designated in here? MR. MORRIS: I think this is missing a page. THE WITNESS: Going to 1 to 2 to
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	Please don't hesitate to do that.  A. Thank you.  Q. Sir, just for the record, where do you live?  A. I live in New York City, Upper West Side.  Q. Do you have any real estate or property that where you live periodically in the State of Texas?	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	J. Seery  A. I believe I have, yes.  Q. Okay. And are you familiar with the topics I've designated in here?  MR. MORRIS: I think this is missing a page.  THE WITNESS: Going to 1 to 2  to  MR. MORRIS: The topics aren't in this version.
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1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	Q. Okay. And subject to your	2	A. 1990.
3	counsel's objections, which he sent to me by	3	Q. Okay. And what states have you
4	email, are you prepared to testify on the	4	been licensed in as a lawyer?
5	topics that are designated in here today?	5	A. New York and Connecticut.
6	A. Yes.	6	Q. Are you currently licensed as a
7	Q. Okay. And have you reasonably	7	lawyer?
8	informed yourself on those topics prior to	8	A. I believe I am.
9	sitting here today?	9	Q. Okay. Have you ever faced any
10	A. Yes.	10	disciplinary proceedings as a lawyer?
11	Q. Okay. Now, some background, and we	11	A. No.
12	don't need to go into excruciating detail.	12	Q. With respect to bankruptcy cases,
13	What is your educational	13	can you give us a brief recitation of of
14	background?	14	your relevant experience in administering
15	A. I have a BA in history. I have a	15	Chapter 11 or other bankruptcy estates?
16	law degree, JD. And I've taken lots and lots	16	A. Administering, I I've been
17	of courses.	17	involved or been an active player - either as
18	Q. And what university or college is	18	a lawyer, senior lawyer, investor, and in
19	your history BA from?	19	this case an independent director and CRO -
20	A. Colgate University.	20	in really my entire career, so I would say
21	Q. Okay. And what university is your	21	hundreds.
22	JD from?	22	Q. Okay. Do you consider yourself an
23	A. New York Law School.	23	expert on bankruptcy law?
24	Q. And when did you graduate New York	24	A. I'm pretty good.
25	Law School and get your JD?	25	Q. Okay. And with respect to the
l			
			- 40
1	Page 12 J. Seery	1	Page 13 J. Seery
1 2	J. Seery	1 2	J. Seery
l	J. Seery Highland Capital Management LP bankruptcy		J. Seery were the three of you independent directors
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	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	Q. Okay. And Mr. Duval [ph], what	2	Q. Okay. And you're also a
3	was, just briefly, his background to your	3	post-confirmation trustee, are you not?
4	understanding?	4	A. I am, yes.
5	A. Dubel	5	Q. And what are you the trustee of?
6	Q. I'm sorry, Dubel.	6	A. The Claimant trustee.
7	A and he was a he's a very	7	O. Okay. And what role does the
8	experienced practitioner in distressed	8	Claimant trustee, if any, have with the
9	corporate management and bankruptcy corporate	9	reorganized debtor?
10	management.	10	A. The Claimant trustee is the
11	Q. Okay. After the bankruptcy plan	11	claimant is the trustee for the Claimant
12	became effective, what happened to the	12	Trust, which holds the limited partnership
13	debtor?	13	units for the reorganized debtor.
14	In other words, as a corporate	14	Q. Okay. And does it also hold any
15	entity, what happened to the debtor?	15	general partnership units for the reorganized
16	A. The debtor was reconstituted with a	16	debtor?
17	new GP and new limited partnership units.	17	A. It holds the ownership interest in
18	Q. Okay. And do you have any role	18	the GP.
19	with respect to authority at the debtor	19	Q. Okay. Is it fair to say that
20	today?	20	that all economic value in the reorganized
21	A. I do.	21	debtor one way or the other inures to the
22	Q. What is your role, sir?	22	benefit of the Claimant Trust under the plan?
23	A. I'm the CEO.	23	A. It does effectively run up to the
24	Q. The I'm sorry, the CEO?	24	Claimant Trust, yes.
25	A. Yes.	25	Q. And is it fair to say that you are
			£
1	Page 16 J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	in charge of the reorganized debtor?	2	Q. Okay. And both Mr. Surgeon I'm
3	A. I'm in charge of the reorganized	3	sorry, Surgent and Mr. Klos were previously
4	debtor and I'm in charge of the Claimant	4	employed with the debtor prior to the
5	Trust, but not all of the value runs through	5	effective date?
6	me directly.	6	A. They were.
7	Q. Because there's also a Litigation	7	Q. Okay. So in July 2020, you
8	Sub-Trust?	8	mentioned you became the CEO and CRO of the
9	A. That's correct, and that doesn't	9	debtor, correct?
10	report to me.	10	A. That's correct.
11	Q. As far, sir let's just limit it	11	Q. Okay. And prior to that well,
12	now to the debtor's post effective date	12	obviously, you know who Mr. James Dondero is,
13	operations.	13	correct?
14	Are you the person in charge of	14	A. I do.
15	those operations?	15	Q. Okay. And part of what happened on
16	A. Yes.	16	January 9, 2020, in summary, was that
17	Q. Okay. Are you and you said that	17	Mr. Dondero, pursuant to his agreement and
18	you're the CEO of the debtor.	18	Court order, was removed from controlling the
19	Are there any other officers,	19	debtor.
20	either at the debtor or its new GP, in	20	Is that a fair summary?
21	addition to you?	21	A. Certain
22	A. Yes.	22	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
23	Q. Who who, sir?	23	form of the question.
	A. Thomas Surgent is the general	24	A. Certain certainly with respect
2.4			
24 25	counsel and David Klos is the CFO.	25	to the the corporate delegation of

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1	Page 18 J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	authority, yes.	2	subsequently and later in the year on asset
3	Q. Okay. He stayed on as an employee,	3	sales that were being conducted out of
4	but whatever he did - is it fair to say -	4	certain of the CLOs
5	after January 9, 2020 would be subject to the	5	(Reporter clarification.)
6	new independent board?	6	THE WITNESS: Asset sales I'm
7	A. I don't think that would be fair to	7	sorry, asset sales out of certain of
8	say. I think from a corporate rule	8	the CLOs.
9	perspective it would be. I think he he,	9	So there, there if we take time,
10	subsequently, we learned, did quite a few	10	we can go through dozens.
11	things without	11	BY MR. RUKAVINA:
12	(Reporter clarification.)	12	Q. Well, I get the general gist. And
13	THE WITNESS: Subsequently we	13	is it fair to say that those things that he
14	learned he did quite a few things	14	was doing, amongst others, is why the
15	without oversight by the independent	15	independent board made you the CEO and CRO?
16	board.	16	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
17	BY MR. RUKAVINA:	17	form of the question.
18	Q. Okay. Can you give me an example	18	Q. Let me rephrase the question.
19	of what he did without oversight by the	19	Why, in July first of all, who
20	independent board?	20	made you CEO and CRO in July of 2020?
21	A. He traded traded assets; he	21	A. The independent board approved it
22	managed the Select account on his own; he	22	and then the Court approved it.
23	didn't meet margins calls at direction that	23	Q. And you were on that independent
24	the that the board, independent board, had	24	board, so you were one of the people that
25	said to to meet; he tried to overrule me	25	approved it?
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	Page 20		Page 21
1	Page 20 J. Seery	1	J. Seery
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1	J. Seery		J. Seery
2	J. Seery MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	2	J. Seery A. He was
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1 -	Page 22		Page 23
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	that and wanted to be put back in. I think	2	the independent board expected them to be
3	it probably had to do with with press	3	doing?
4	reports that he didn't like reading. So he	4	A. I think we had we certainly had
5	maintained an unpaid role as the portfolio	5	concerns about that, yes.
6	manager. The portfolio that he really	6	Q. And we'll round this off pretty
7	managed was the Select account.	7	quickly.
8	What he should have done is he	8	Did there come a time when you
9	should have taken direction. He should have	9	asked Mr. Dondero for his resignation?
10	honored the margin calls that that	10	A. There did, yes.
11	Jefferies had made, he should have sold	11	Q. And and did he give it?
12	assets, he should have reported to the board.	12	A. He did, yes.
13	He did none of those things.	13	Q. And do you recall the date?
14	He independently, then, ran	14	A. It was in October of 2020.
15	roughshod over certain parts of the	15	MR. RUKAVINA: I have it in here
16	organization. He should not have done that.	16	somewhere. I'm not sure that it's
17	And it was very difficult, with the existing	17	well, let's just put it in the record,
18	employees, to manage them with Mr. Dondero	18	see if this will refresh your memory.
19	there because they'd worked for him for a	19	This is going to be 3, right?
20	number of years.	20	(Exhibit 3, Email Chain Re:
21	Q. That was going to be my next	21	HCMLP Roles, marked for identification,
22	question.	22	as of this date.)
23	Did you feel, prior to July 2020,	23	(Brief off-record discussion.)
24	that some employees, some key employees, were	24	BY MR. RUKAVINA:
25	basically doing his bidding instead of what	25	Q. Do you recall this email chain,
	Page 24	_	Page 25
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
			_
2	sir?	2	A. That's correct.
3	A. Vague vaguely. I'm I'm	3	Q. Okay. So it it's is it the
3 4	A. Vague vaguely. I'm I'm familiar with it, yes.	3 4	Q. Okay. So it it's is it the debtor's contention that NexPoint failed to
3 4 5	A. Vague vaguely. I'm I'm familiar with it, yes.  Q. And does this refresh your memory	3 4 5	Q. Okay. So it it's is it the debtor's contention that NexPoint failed to make a payment due, let's say on or before
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3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	A. Vague vaguely. I'm I'm familiar with it, yes.  Q. And does this refresh your memory that Mr. Dondero resigned on October the 9th, 2020?  A. I I would say it confirms my memory since I said it was in October.  Q. Okay. But can you now confirm that it was October 9, 2020?  A. Yes.  Q. Okay. Thank you. Now, just to put it in the record here because of Mr. Morris' objection, it is and I apologize, we're going to talk about the debtor's contentions today in this lawsuit against NexPoint.  Is it okay if I say debtor or you want me to say reorganized debtor or  A. Whatever you're more comfortable, I'm okay.  Q. It is well, the the debtor the reorganized debtor under the plan,	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	Q. Okay. So it it's is it the debtor's contention that NexPoint failed to make a payment due, let's say on or before December 31, 2020, on this \$30.7 million promissory note?  A. That's correct.  Q. Okay. And we'll go further in detail, but ultimately, on or about January 7, the debtor sent notice that the note was immediately due and payable, correct?  A. That's correct.  Q. And did you make that decision to say that the note is immediately due and payable?  A. I did, yes.  Q. Okay. Thank you. Now and you were aware, when you made that decision, that that NexPoint was affiliated to some degree with Mr. Dondero?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.
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3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	A. Vague vaguely. I'm I'm familiar with it, yes.  Q. And does this refresh your memory that Mr. Dondero resigned on October the 9th, 2020?  A. I I would say it confirms my memory since I said it was in October.  Q. Okay. But can you now confirm that it was October 9, 2020?  A. Yes.  Q. Okay. Thank you. Now, just to put it in the record here because of Mr. Morris' objection, it is and I apologize, we're going to talk about the debtor's contentions today in this lawsuit against NexPoint.  Is it okay if I say debtor or you want me to say reorganized debtor or  A. Whatever you're more comfortable, I'm okay.  Q. It is well, the the debtor the reorganized debtor under the plan,	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	Q. Okay. So it it's is it the debtor's contention that NexPoint failed to make a payment due, let's say on or before December 31, 2020, on this \$30.7 million promissory note?  A. That's correct.  Q. Okay. And we'll go further in detail, but ultimately, on or about January 7, the debtor sent notice that the note was immediately due and payable, correct?  A. That's correct.  Q. And did you make that decision to say that the note is immediately due and payable?  A. I did, yes.  Q. Okay. Thank you. Now and you were aware, when you made that decision, that that NexPoint was affiliated to some degree with Mr. Dondero?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.

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1	Page 26 J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	what is your understanding now - you answer	2	that time as to Mr. Dondero's honesty?
3	it how ever you can - as to what	3	A. I think he's dishonest.
4	Mr. Dondero's role with NexPoint Advisors LP	4	Q. Okay. What opinion did you form as
5	was in December 2020?	5	to his business acumen?
6	A. I believe it was and continues to	6	A. I think it's challenged.
7	be complete ownership control and domination	7	Q. Can you elaborate?
8	of NexPoint Advisors.	8	A. I the Select account we've
9	Q. Between January 9, 2020, when you	9	talked about is a is a great example.
10	became an independent director, and October	10	Shorting Zoom in the pandemic and
11	9, 2020, when Mr. Dondero resigned, did you	11	holding it, shorting Netflix for long periods
12	form an opinion as to Mr. Dondero's honesty?	12	of time, moving money all around without any
13	A. Between which dates?	13	thought of the corporate form, moving money
14	Q. January 9 and October 9, 2020.	14	in and out of different entities.
15	A. January 9 and October yes.	15	The litigations that he was
16	O. Yes.	16	involved in; Acis alone he could have settled
17	And did you form an opinion as to	17	for \$2 million and probably burned nearly
18	his business acumen?	18	\$200 million of value.
19	A. To some degree, yes.	19	So those are just beginning
20	Q. Okay. Did you form an opinion as	20	examples.
21	to his management skills?	21	Q. Given the opinions that you formed
22	A. Yes.	22	as to Mr. Dondero, did you believe that
23	Q. Okay. What was your opinion	23	that's also how he was running NexPoint at
24	with pardon me, strike that.	24	that time in late 2020?
25	What opinion did you form during	25	A. I didn't make any judgments about
1	Page 28 J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	NexPoint.	2	(Simultaneous speaking.)
3	Q. Okay. Now, are you familiar with	3	A depends on the context.
4	the concepts, in bankruptcy, of solvency or	4	(Reporter interjection.)
5	insolvency?	5	Q. I'm sorry.
6	A. Yes.	6	So you agree with me you agree
7	Q. Okay. Are you familiar with one or	7	with me, again, depending on the context,
8	more metrics or definitions	8	that one definition of insolvency is balance
9	A. Yes.	9	sheet, meaning that your liabilities exceed
10	Q for solvency okay.	10	your assets?
11	A. Yes.	11	A. That is one definition of
12	Q. Can you tell me how you understand	12	insolvency.
13	solvency to be.	13	Q. And you agree with me that another
14	A. In which context?	14	definition is when you're basically unable to
15	Q. Well, under the Bankruptcy Code.	15	pay your debts as they become due?
16	A. There's no	16	A. That's another definition.
17	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	17	Q. Okay. And I'm going to ask you,
18 19	form of the question.  A. There's no definition of solvency	18   19	when you became or after you became an independent director on January 9, 2020, did
20		20	
21	in the bankruptcy code.  O. Sir, there is.	21	you form an opinion as to the debtor's
l	Q. Sir, there is. MR. MORRIS: Well	21	solvency?
22			A. On January 9?
23	A. Failure to pay debts as they come	23	Q. Well, or after that after,
24 25	due, balance sheet insolvency O. That's what I'm	24 25	after (Simultaneous speaking.)
رک ا	Q. That's what I'm	23	(DIMUTCAMEOUS SPEARING.)

			- 21
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	Q January 9, 2020.	2	Q. Okay.
3	A. It's a it's a long period. So	3	A. I think early in the case, as I
4	if you want to break it down	4	said, I didn't form any opinion as to
5	O. Yeah.	5	solvency.
6	A in the early part of the case I	6	Q. But at some point did you form an
7	did not form an opinion as to solvency.	7	opinion as to solvency?
8	I had to determine what the asset	8	A. Yeah, I don't know exactly when it
9	values were and what the what the claims	9	was, but at at some point it became clear
10	were.	10	to me that the claims exceeded the asset
11	Q. Did you ever form an opinion and	11	value.
12	the reason why I'm I want to separate the	12	Q. So is it fair to say that at some
13	debtor from the reorganized debtor. That's	13	point you concluded that the debtor was
14	why I'm trying to be sensitive on the dates.	14	insolvent based on the balance sheet test?
15	So I'm going to say debtor. Did	15	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
16	you ever form an opinion as to the debtor's	16	form of the question.
17	solvency?	17	A. Certainly on on the balance
18	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	18	sheet test, yeah.
19	form of the question.	19	Q. What about on the inability to pay
20	A. That's that's what I answered.	20	debts as they become due; did you ever form
21	Q. So you did?	21	an opinion on that test?
22	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	22	A. Well, it was in bankruptcy, so that
23	form of the question.	23	had already been met.
24	A. The the debtor's solvency	24	Q. Okay. Did you ever form an opinion
25	depends on when.	25	or have one provided by non-lawyers to you as
	deposited on miles.		of make one provided of non-rangers of feature
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	to whether the debtor was insolvent prior to	2	MR. RUKAVINA: With due respect,
3	the petition date?	3	John, you've sued my client for
4	A. Did I, I I do now.	4	fraudulent transfer. That requires
5	Q. Okay. What is your opinion?	5	insolvency as an element. I'm entitled
6	A. I think the debtor was insolvent	6	to explore insolvency.
7	and very much insolvent well before the	7	MR. MORRIS: Sure, for for
8	filing.	8	2019, go right ahead. That's when the
9	Q. Into 2018?	9	transfer was made, right?
10	A. Certainly.	10	MR. RUKAVINA: The note
11	Q. 2017?	11	MR. MORRIS: The note is 2000
12	A. Certainly.	12	the, the note is is May 2, 2019,
13	Q. 2016?	13	so
14	A. Yes.	14	MR. RUKAVINA: No, sir, you're
15	Q. Okay. And when you say that the	15	I'm sorry, you're confusing this with
16	debtor was well insolvent before filing, are	16	the HCMA case. Let's put the note into
17	you applying one or both of the definitions	17	evidence.
18	we discussed for insolvency?	18	MR. MORRIS: Okay.
19	MR. MORRIS: Davor, I'm just	19	MR. RUKAVINA: It's I'm not
20	going to express the same concern I did	20	trying to be
21	earlier. For the life of me, I don't	21	(Simultaneous speaking.)
22	know I mean, I know why you're doing	22	MR. MORRIS: No, no, no, no, no.
23	this, but it's certainly not related to	23	Let me, let me let me restate this.
24	any of the claims that are at issue in	24	MR. RUKAVINA: Yeah.
25	this lawsuit. So I'm just I just	25	MR. MORRIS: It's for actual
	_ ·	1	

J. Seery  1 J. Seery 2 fraudulent transfer. 2 A. I I think bot	
2 fraudulent transfer. 2 A. I I think bot	Page 35
	h I think vou'd
3 MR. RUKAVINA: Yes. 3 have to go through each, b	<del>-</del>
4 MR. MORRIS: Solvency is not an 4 properly look at the balan	
5 issue. Solvency is not an issue. We 5 add the contingent liabili	-
6 have no burden of proving solvency. 6 clear that the debtor didn	
7 It's only that's exactly why we 7 wherewithal from the balan	
8 didn't put constructive fraudulent 8 perspective to satisfy the	
9 transfer in the complaint, so we 9 liabilities.	be dicinate
	debtor continually
11 MR. RUKAVINA: We can we can 11 borrowed money when it nee	_
debate the law on that, but I think 12 was was always on a ver	
13 I think you have answered it. 13 respect to liquidity, as m	
14 BY MR. RUKAVINA: 14 sucked out at different ti	
	ober 9, 2020, when
16 insolvent certainly as of 2016? 16 Mr. Dondero resigned, shou	· · · · ·
17 A. Yeah. 17 had any ability to instruc	
18 Q. Okay. And I asked you, and before 18 employees as to what to do	
	, II chac quescion
	h objection to
or both definitions were you using when you 20 MR. MORRIS: Year 21 told me that the debtor was insolvent in 21 the form of the questi	
22 2019, 2018, 2017 and 2016? 22 A. The the answe	
25 of the question. 25 confusing, but with respec	t to the shared
Page 36	Page 37
1	2430 37
J. Seery 1 J. Seery	_
2 services, he could make certain direction to 2 but yes, right around ther	e.
2 services, he could make certain direction to 2 but yes, right around ther 3 the employees and even after the contempt 3 Q. Okay. Was he th	e. e chief financial
2 services, he could make certain direction to 3 the employees and even after the contempt 4 finding could make certain directions with 2 but yes, right around ther 3 Q. Okay. Was he th 4 officer of the debtor on J	e. e chief financial anuary 12, 2021?
2 services, he could make certain direction to 3 the employees and even after the contempt 4 finding could make certain directions with 5 respect to shared services.  2 but yes, right around ther 3 Q. Okay. Was he th 4 officer of the debtor on J 5 A. I I believe h	e. e chief financial anuary 12, 2021? e was. I don't
2 services, he could make certain direction to 3 the employees and even after the contempt 4 finding could make certain directions with 5 respect to shared services. 6 With respect to operations of 5 but yes, right around ther 7 Q. Okay. Was he th 9 defice of the debtor on J 1 Services A. I I believe h 1 General the exact dates tha	e. e chief financial anuary 12, 2021? e was. I don't
2 services, he could make certain direction to 3 the employees and even after the contempt 4 finding could make certain directions with 5 respect to shared services. 6 With respect to operations of 7 HCMLP, no. 2 but yes, right around ther 3 Q. Okay. Was he th 4 officer of the debtor on J 5 A. I I believe h 6 recall the exact dates tha 7 cutover.	e. e chief financial anuary 12, 2021? e was. I don't t we did the the
2 services, he could make certain direction to 3 the employees and even after the contempt 4 finding could make certain directions with 5 respect to shared services. 6 With respect to operations of 7 HCMLP, no. 7 cutover. 8 Q. Okay. Was he th 6 recall the debtor on J 6 recall the exact dates tha 7 cutover. 8 Q. Okay. And that was my question. 8 Q. Okay. Well, let	e. e chief financial anuary 12, 2021? e was. I don't
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2 services, he could make certain direction to 3 the employees and even after the contempt 4 finding could make certain directions with 5 respect to shared services. 6 With respect to operations of 7 HCMLP, no. 7 cutover. 8 Q. Okay. And that was my question. 9 So if it was an HCMLP operational 10 issue, Mr. Dondero had no ability to instruct 2 but yes, right around ther 2 but yes, right around ther 3 Q. Okay. Was he th 4 officer of the debtor on J 5 A. I I believe h 6 recall the exact dates tha 7 cutover. 8 Q. Okay. Well, let 9 pin that down. 10 You recall that	e. e chief financial anuary 12, 2021? e was. I don't t we did the the 's let's try to there was a shared
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services, he could make certain direction to the employees and even after the contempt finding could make certain directions with finding could make certain direction with finding could make certain direction to  Q. Okay. Was he th formula is a certain direction to get was he th formula is a certain direction to get was he th formula is a certain direction to get was he th formula is a certain direction to get was, right around ther get was he th formula is a certain direction to get was he th formula is a certain direction to get was he th formula is a certain direction to get was he th formula is a certain direction to get was he th formula is a certain direction to get was he th formula is a certain direction to get was he th formula is a certain direction to get was he th formula is a certain direction to get was he th formula is a certain direction to get was he th formula is a certain direction to get was he th formula is a certain direction to get was he th formula is a certain direction to get was he th formula is a certain direction to get was he th formula is a certain direction to get was he th formula is a certain direction to get was held to officer of the debtor on J  substitution to get was held to officer of the debtor on J  substitution to get was held to formula is a certain direction to get was held to officer of the debtor on J  substitution to get was held to officer of the debtor on J  substitution to officer of the debtor on J  subst	e. e chief financial anuary 12, 2021? e was. I don't t we did the the 's let's try to there was a shared
services, he could make certain direction to the employees and even after the contempt finding could make certain directions with finding could make certain directions  Q. Okay. Was he th forming the debtor on J  A. I I believe h for cutover.  Recall the exact dates tha for cutover.  Q. Okay. Well, let go pin that down.  You recall that forming the debtor on J  So if it was an HCMLP operational forming the materian direction to go okay. Was he th forming the debtor on J  So A. I I believe h forming the materian direction to go okay. Was he th forming the materian direction to go okay. Was he th forming the materian direction to go okay. Was he th forming the materian direction to go okay. Was he th go officer of the debtor on J  So A. I I believe h go outover.  Recall the exact dates tha go outover.  Recall	e. e chief financial anuary 12, 2021? e was. I don't t we did the the 's let's try to there was a shared e between the
2 services, he could make certain direction to 3 the employees and even after the contempt 4 finding could make certain directions with 5 respect to shared services. 6 With respect to operations of 7 HCMLP, no. 7 cutover. 8 Q. Okay. And that was my question. 9 So if it was an HCMLP operational 10 issue, Mr. Dondero had no ability to instruct 11 anyone else? 12 A. Or, or or any issue 13 Q. Any issue 14 A but with respect to shared 2 but yes, right around ther 3 Q. Okay. Was he th 4 officer of the debtor on J 5 A. I I believe h 6 recall the exact dates tha 7 cutover. 8 Q. Okay. Well, let 9 pin that down. 10 You recall that 11 services agreement in plac 12 debtor and NexPoint? 13 A. Yes. 14 Q. Okay. And you r	e. e chief financial anuary 12, 2021? e was. I don't t we did the the 's let's try to there was a shared e between the ecall that the
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2 services, he could make certain direction to 3 the employees and even after the contempt 4 finding could make certain directions with 5 respect to shared services. 6 With respect to operations of 7 HCMLP, no. 8 Q. Okay. And that was my question. 9 So if it was an HCMLP operational 10 issue, Mr. Dondero had no ability to instruct 11 anyone else? 12 A. Or, or or any issue 13 Q. Any issue 14 A but with respect to shared 15 services, he certainly could communicate with 16 them, and if there were shared services that 17 needed to be performed, he could request 18 those. 19 Q. Now, as of October 9, 2020, is it 20 but yes, right around ther 3 Q. Okay. Was he th 4 officer of the debtor on J 5 A. I I believe h 6 recall the exact dates tha 7 cutover. 8 Q. Okay. Well, let 9 pin that down. 10 You recall that 11 services agreement in place 12 debtor and NexPoint? 13 A. Yes. 14 Q. Okay. And you r 15 debtor exercised its opt - 16 terminate that agreement? 17 A. That's correct. 18 Q. Okay. And do yo 19 Q. Now, as of October 9, 2020, is it 20 agreement was actually ter	e. e chief financial anuary 12, 2021? e was. I don't t we did the the 's let's try to there was a shared e between the  ecall that the - or right to  u recall the date, on which that minated?
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1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	THE WITNESS: Sixty-day for NPA,	2	the shared services agreement?
3	I'm sorry, NPA.	3	A. There there were extensions; I
4	And there was some sixty days	4	don't recall the specific dates.
5	and some thirty days, so I don't recall	5	Q. Okay. Was to your recollection,
6	the exact date that there that it was	6	was was Mr. Waterhouse the chief financial
7	effectively terminated.	7	officer until the termination of that shared
8	BY MR. RUKAVINA:	8	services agreement or did he cease being the
9	Q. Well, by NPA, you mean NexPoint	9	chief financial officer at some period prior
10	Advisors?	10	to that?
11	A. Correct.	11	A. I I believe it was to the end,
12	Q. Okay.	12	but I'm not I'm not absolutely certain
13	A. Isn't that who you asked me about?	13	about that.
14	Q. I know. I'm just for the	14	Q. So in December of 2021 I'm
15	record, the jury might not know who NPA is.	15	sorry, strike that.
16	A. Okay.	16	In December of 2020, you were the
17	Q. Do you recall that we you and I	17	chief restructuring officer, you were the
18	had a trial in sometime in mid February	18	chief executive officer of the debtor,
19	2021 about the shared services agreements?	19	correct?
20	A. I know we had a hearing. I don't	20	A. Yes.
21	recall if you'd call it a trial. It was a	21	Q. Mr. Waterhouse was the chief
22	hearing on termination.	22	financial officer, correct?
23	Q. Okay. And and do you recall	23	A. Yes.
24	that the debtor had agreed to extend	24	Q. Who else would have been an officer
25	termination until February the 28th, 2021 of	25	of the debtor in December of 2020?
	Page 40		Page 41
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	J. Seery A. In December of 2020?	2	J. Seery mediation.
2 3	J. Seery  A. In December of 2020?  Scott Ellington was still the		J. Seery mediation. Q. You've heard the term "pot plan"
2 3 4	J. Seery A. In December of 2020? Scott Ellington was still the general counsel.	2 3 4	J. Seery mediation. Q. You've heard the term "pot plan" that Mr. Dondero has talked about before,
2 3 4 5	J. Seery  A. In December of 2020? Scott Ellington was still the general counsel.  Q. Okay.	2 3 4 5	J. Seery mediation. Q. You've heard the term "pot plan" that Mr. Dondero has talked about before, correct?
2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery  A. In December of 2020? Scott Ellington was still the general counsel.  Q. Okay. A. And I don't believe that we had any	2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery mediation. Q. You've heard the term "pot plan" that Mr. Dondero has talked about before, correct? A. I have, yes.
2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery  A. In December of 2020? Scott Ellington was still the general counsel.  Q. Okay. A. And I don't believe that we had any other corporate officers.	2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery mediation.  Q. You've heard the term "pot plan" that Mr. Dondero has talked about before, correct?  A. I have, yes. Q. Okay. And what did you understand
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery  A. In December of 2020? Scott Ellington was still the general counsel. Q. Okay. A. And I don't believe that we had any other corporate officers. Q. Mr. Surgent wasn't an officer, to	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery mediation. Q. You've heard the term "pot plan" that Mr. Dondero has talked about before, correct? A. I have, yes. Q. Okay. And what did you understand a pot plan, as he was proposing it starting
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	J. Seery  A. In December of 2020? Scott Ellington was still the  general counsel. Q. Okay. A. And I don't believe that we had any other corporate officers. Q. Mr. Surgent wasn't an officer, to your recollection? A. He was the CCO	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	J. Seery mediation. Q. You've heard the term "pot plan" that Mr. Dondero has talked about before, correct? A. I have, yes. Q. Okay. And what did you understand a pot plan, as he was proposing it starting in August of 2020, to be? A. Yeah, it's not a novel term.
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	J. Seery  A. In December of 2020? Scott Ellington was still the  general counsel.  Q. Okay.  A. And I don't believe that we had any other corporate officers.  Q. Mr. Surgent wasn't an officer, to your recollection?  A. He was the CCO Q. Okay.  A so I don't believe that's actually a corporate officer.  Q. Was there a COO, do you know?  A. I don't believe so at the time.  Q. Okay. Now, in the latter half of 2020, Mr. Dondero was trying to float some what we've all called pot plan.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	mediation.  Q. You've heard the term "pot plan" that Mr. Dondero has talked about before, correct?  A. I have, yes. Q. Okay. And what did you understand a pot plan, as he was proposing it starting in August of 2020, to be? A. Yeah, it's not a novel term.  Certainly he didn't invent it or or probably didn't get it in this case. He probably got it from his lawyer.  But the idea of a pot plan is to put a bunch of money into the middle and create a pot that then the creditors can determine how to divide, and the reorganized debtor moves on with its existence away from
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	J. Seery  A. In December of 2020? Scott Ellington was still the  general counsel.  Q. Okay.  A. And I don't believe that we had any other corporate officers.  Q. Mr. Surgent wasn't an officer, to your recollection?  A. He was the CCO Q. Okay.  A so I don't believe that's actually a corporate officer.  Q. Was there a COO, do you know?  A. I don't believe so at the time.  Q. Okay. Now, in the latter half of 2020, Mr. Dondero was trying to float some what we've all called pot plan.  Do you recall that?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	mediation.  Q. You've heard the term "pot plan" that Mr. Dondero has talked about before, correct?  A. I have, yes. Q. Okay. And what did you understand a pot plan, as he was proposing it starting in August of 2020, to be? A. Yeah, it's not a novel term.  Certainly he didn't invent it or or probably didn't get it in this case. He probably got it from his lawyer.  But the idea of a pot plan is to put a bunch of money into the middle and create a pot that then the creditors can determine how to divide, and the reorganized debtor moves on with its existence away from the creditor claims. Q. There was a creditors' committee in the Highland bankruptcy case, correct?
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	J. Seery  A. In December of 2020? Scott Ellington was still the  general counsel.  Q. Okay.  A. And I don't believe that we had any other corporate officers.  Q. Mr. Surgent wasn't an officer, to your recollection?  A. He was the CCO Q. Okay.  A so I don't believe that's actually a corporate officer.  Q. Was there a COO, do you know?  A. I don't believe so at the time.  Q. Okay. Now, in the latter half of 2020, Mr. Dondero was trying to float some what we've all called pot plan.  Do you recall that?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.  A. The latter half, I I guess	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	mediation.  Q. You've heard the term "pot plan" that Mr. Dondero has talked about before, correct?  A. I have, yes. Q. Okay. And what did you understand a pot plan, as he was proposing it starting in August of 2020, to be?  A. Yeah, it's not a novel term.  Certainly he didn't invent it or or probably didn't get it in this case. He probably got it from his lawyer.  But the idea of a pot plan is to put a bunch of money into the middle and create a pot that then the creditors can determine how to divide, and the reorganized debtor moves on with its existence away from the creditor claims.  Q. There was a creditors' committee in the Highland bankruptcy case, correct?  A. Yes.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	J. Seery  A. In December of 2020? Scott Ellington was still the  general counsel.  Q. Okay.  A. And I don't believe that we had any other corporate officers.  Q. Mr. Surgent wasn't an officer, to your recollection?  A. He was the CCO Q. Okay.  A so I don't believe that's actually a corporate officer.  Q. Was there a COO, do you know?  A. I don't believe so at the time.  Q. Okay. Now, in the latter half of 2020, Mr. Dondero was trying to float some what we've all called pot plan.  Do you recall that?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.  A. The latter half, I I guess starting in probably around August	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	mediation.  Q. You've heard the term "pot plan" that Mr. Dondero has talked about before, correct?  A. I have, yes. Q. Okay. And what did you understand a pot plan, as he was proposing it starting in August of 2020, to be? A. Yeah, it's not a novel term.  Certainly he didn't invent it or or probably didn't get it in this case. He probably got it from his lawyer.  But the idea of a pot plan is to put a bunch of money into the middle and create a pot that then the creditors can determine how to divide, and the reorganized debtor moves on with its existence away from the creditor claims. Q. There was a creditors' committee in the Highland bankruptcy case, correct? A. Yes. Q. And how many committee members were
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	J. Seery  A. In December of 2020? Scott Ellington was still the  general counsel.  Q. Okay.  A. And I don't believe that we had any other corporate officers.  Q. Mr. Surgent wasn't an officer, to your recollection?  A. He was the CCO Q. Okay.  A so I don't believe that's actually a corporate officer.  Q. Was there a COO, do you know?  A. I don't believe so at the time.  Q. Okay. Now, in the latter half of 2020, Mr. Dondero was trying to float some what we've all called pot plan.  Do you recall that?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.  A. The latter half, I I guess	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	mediation.  Q. You've heard the term "pot plan" that Mr. Dondero has talked about before, correct?  A. I have, yes. Q. Okay. And what did you understand a pot plan, as he was proposing it starting in August of 2020, to be?  A. Yeah, it's not a novel term.  Certainly he didn't invent it or or probably didn't get it in this case. He probably got it from his lawyer.  But the idea of a pot plan is to put a bunch of money into the middle and create a pot that then the creditors can determine how to divide, and the reorganized debtor moves on with its existence away from the creditor claims.  Q. There was a creditors' committee in the Highland bankruptcy case, correct?  A. Yes.

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Page 42
                                                                                                       Page 43
1
                      J. Seery
                                                        1
                                                                             J. Seery
               Okay. And is it fair to say that
 2
                                                        2
                                                            to sound like I was going to bridge it with
         Ο.
 3
    as part of this pot plan, Mr. Dondero was
                                                        3
                                                            any sort of finances.
     trying to propose something that might be
                                                        4
                                                                      Yeah, that's true, the word
                                                            "bridge" could be construed to mean that.
 5
    palatable to that creditor's committee?
                                                        5
 6
               I think it's fair to say it would
                                                        6
                                                            You're correct.
7
    have to be palatable to that creditor's
                                                        7
                                                                      MR. RUKAVINA: Are we on 4?
 8
     committee.
                                                        8
                                                                      THE WITNESS: Yes.
9
               And is it fair to say that -- that
                                                        9
                                                                       (Exhibit 4, Seery Declaration in
10
     starting in August of 2020, you were trying
                                                       10
                                                                Support of Motion for TRO, marked for
11
     to see if you might facilitate or bridge that
                                                       11
                                                                identification, as of this date.)
12
                                                       12
                                                                       (Brief off-record discussion.)
13
                                                       13
                                                                      Do you recall this declaration,
         Α.
               I wouldn't say bridge but certainly
                                                                Q.
                                                       14
14
     facilitate --
                                                            sir?
15
         Q.
               Okay. What --
                                                       15
                                                                A.
                                                                      Not -- not specifically.
16
               -- or if you want to say I did as a
                                                       16
                                                                      Okay. But if I represent to you
17
    bridge between Mr. Dondero and his counsel
                                                            that I pulled this from the docket as your
                                                       17
     and -- and the committee and their counsel,
                                                            counsel filed it, and assuming that I'm
18
                                                       18
     that -- that would be fair.
19
                                                       19
                                                            telling the truth, would it -- would this
20
               Okay. Well, let me -- let me look
                                                       20
                                                            have been a declaration that you caused to be
     at your prior -- we're saying the same thing,
21
                                                       21
22
    we're just having --
                                                       22
                                                                Α.
                                                                      Yeah, I have no -- no reason to
23
               (Simultaneous speaking.)
                                                       23
                                                            challenge it, yes.
24
               I don't think we're having a
                                                       24
                                                                      Okay. And we might come back to
         A.
                                                       25
                                                            this a little bit later. I don't want to
25
    definitional problem. I just don't want it
                                               Page 44
                                                                                                       Page 45
1
                                                                             J. Seery
                      J. Seery
                                                        1
 2
    waste your time right now. But I've lost my
                                                        2
                                                                A.
                                                                      That's correct.
 3
    place, so we'll come back to it later, after
                                                        3
                                                                Ο.
                                                                      Okay. And did you continue doing
 4
    a break.
                                                        4
                                                            so for a period of months after that?
 5
                                                        5
               Going back --
                                                                      Certainly into early November.
 6
               (Simultaneous speaking.)
                                                        6
                                                                      Okay. Would you say that there was
                                                                Q.
7
                                                        7
         A.
               -- see if there was a bridge quote
                                                            a point in time at which you stopped
8
     in here?
                                                        8
                                                            personally - you, Mr. Seery - personally
9
               No, no, you were -- you were
                                                        9
                                                            stopped trying to facilitate some settlement
         Q.
    describing that you had been trying to
                                                       10
                                                            between Mr. Dondero and the committee
10
                                                            vis-a-vis a pot plan?
11
     facilitate a settlement, and I was just going
                                                       11
12
     to try to use your words so that I wouldn't
                                                       12
                                                                      I think at some point it became
13
    misstate it.
                                                       13
                                                            very clear to me that it was futile, that --
14
               But, but going back, so -- so in
                                                       14
                                                            that Mr. Dondero was never going to come up
                                                       15
15
    August -- starting in August of 2020,
                                                            with any real value that would be anywhere
16
    Mr. Dondero was trying to propose some pot
                                                       16
                                                            close to what the committee would accept.
                                                       17
17
    plan, and it had to have been acceptable to
                                                                      And his structure of his -- his pot
     the committee for there to be any settlement.
                                                            plan was always more notes, and the basic
18
                                                       18
19
               So far I'm correct, right?
                                                       19
                                                            assumption was, well, if you're not paying on
20
                                                       20
         Α.
                                                            these notes how -- how do we trust new notes?
21
               And you as the COO was trying to do
                                                       21
                                                                      And when -- when did that view
         0.
22
     what you could to see if you could facilitate
                                                       22
                                                            crystalize in your mind?
                                                       23
23
     the two of them coming to an under --
                                                                      Probably some -- it probably
24
    understanding.
                                                       24
                                                            developed - so crystallized is a fair word -
25
               Is that generally accurate?
                                                       25
                                                            over a period of time. I think in the -- the
```

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Page 46
                                                                                                        Page 47
1
                        J. Seery
                                                         1
                                                                              J. Seery
 2
       mediation, through the negotiations in
                                                         2
                                                            Mr. Waterhouse at any point in time,
 3
       September and October or the -- the multiple
                                                         3
                                                            basically that you believed that
 4
       re-trades on -- on very specific prior
                                                            Mr. Dondero's pot plan was -- was not going
 5
                                                         5
                                                             to happen?
       agreements, by November it was clear to me
 6
       that -- that there was little hope.
                                                        6
                                                                       I -- I don't recall if I did or
7
                 Okay. So we can say by December 1,
                                                        7
                                                             not.
 8
       certainly by December 1, there was very
                                                         8
                                                                 Ο.
                                                                       Did you -- strike that.
9
       little hope?
                                                        9
                                                                       In -- in the course of these
10
                 Yeah, I think that that's
                                                        10
                                                             discussions between the committee and
           Α.
11
       probably -- at least in my mind. I don't
                                                       11
                                                            Mr. Dondero and -- and maybe your trying to
12
       know if others felt the same, and there was
                                                        12
                                                             facilitate something, was Mr. Waterhouse even
13
       certainly opportunities for settlement beyond
                                                       13
                                                             involved directly, to your knowledge?
14
       that, but it seemed pretty clear to me that
                                                        14
                                                                       He was certainly involved,
15
       we were moving towards a monetization plan
                                                       15
                                                             assisting Mr. Dondero --
       and we started negotiating the separation,
                                                                 Ο.
                                                                       Okay.
16
                                                        16
17
       not with Mr. Dondero but with the team, of --
                                                       17
                                                                       -- and he certainly provided or his
       of the various business and the termination
                                                             team provided data to me, which ultimately
18
                                                        18
       of the --
19
                                                        19
                                                             went to the committee.
20
                 (Reporter clarification.)
                                                        20
                                                                       So I would -- I would think he's
                 THE WITNESS: Businesses and the
                                                             involved to some degree. I don't recall that
21
                                                        21
22
           termination of the shared services,
                                                        22
                                                             he would ever have been involved in -- in
23
                                                        23
                                                             specific discussions --
           sorry.
    BY MR. RUKAVINA:
                                                        24
24
                                                                 Q.
                                                                       Okay.
                                                        25
25
                 Did you convey that to
                                                                Α.
                                                                       -- at least not with me.
           0.
                                                Page 48
                                                                                                        Page 49
1
                      J. Seery
                                                        1
                                                                              J. Seery
 2
               I think it was pretty clear he was
                                                         2
                                                                       I don't think that's fair. I think
 3
     involved with discussions with Mr. Dondero.
                                                         3
                                                             that I -- I and my professionals, lawyers
 4
                                                             and -- and DSI, were in the middle between
               You -- not you, pardon me.
                                                         4
                                                            Mr. Dondero and his counsel and the
 5
               The debtor had an outside financial
                                                         5
 6
     advisor, correct?
                                                         6
                                                             committee. The committee had their own
7
                                                         7
         A.
               That's correct.
                                                             financial advisors.
8
         Q.
               And what was that entity's name?
                                                        8
                                                                       I drew on Mr. Waterhouse and his
9
                                                        9
                                                             team for financial information regarding the
         A.
10
               Is it fair to say that you relied
                                                             debtor's assets throughout the case,
         0.
                                                        10
     on DSI to some degree in the course of these
11
                                                        11
                                                             certainly since I took the position as CEO.
12
    discussions and negotiations?
                                                       12
                                                                 Ο.
                                                                       Okay.
13
               To some degree, but I don't think
                                                        13
                                                                       Mr. Dondero also drew on that
                                                                 Α.
14
     it's a fair characterization that they were
                                                       14
                                                             information quite a bit.
     sort of a hands-on financial advisor around
                                                        15
15
                                                                       At that point in time, let's say in
     the -- these negotiations.
                                                             December of 2020, did you understand that
16
                                                       16
                                                             Mr. Waterhouse had a role with my client,
17
               I just want to -- I just want to
                                                        17
     understand that, that -- it sounds like, to
                                                             NexPoint Advisors?
18
                                                       18
19
    me, at least on the debtor's side,
                                                        19
                                                                       Did you say December of 2020?
20
                                                        20
    Mr. Waterhouse was not one of the key
                                                                       Yes, sir.
                                                                 Q.
21
     individuals trying to facilitate an agreement
                                                        21
                                                                       Did he have a --
22
    between the debtor and the committee?
                                                        22
                                                                       (Simultaneous speaking.)
23
         Α.
               I, I --
                                                        23
                                                                       -- he was -- I think he was
               MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
24
                                                        24
                                                             treasurer and he was an executive officer of
25
         form of the question.
                                                        25
                                                             some -- one of the funds.
```

Page 50 Page 51 1 J. Seery 1 J. Seery 2 2 Now, you mentioned the debtor's And some of those promissory notes Ο. 3 monetization plan that the debtor filed. 3 were term notes, at least as of that time; is 4 I think that's the word you used, 4 that correct? 5 right, monetization plan? 5 Α. That's correct. 6 Okay. And I think, actually, it's Α. Correct. 6 7 Okay. And in, in -- in a nutshell 7 in this declaration which we marked 4, did 0. 8 amongst other things, that plan -- well, you, 8 we? 9 you tell the -- the Court. 9 Α. Yes. 10 What was the monetization plan 10 Q. Yes. So you filed -- or, I'm intended to do? 11 sorry, sir, you -- this was filed on December 11 12 It was aptly named. It was 12 intended to monetize the assets of the debtor 13 13 And I think if you go to paragraph 14 over a period of time that we thought was 14 26 and 27, you'll see that you're discussing 15 legitimate to run the businesses in a way 15 demand notes. 16 that would maximize value for the estate. 16 Α. That's correct. 17 And some of the assets of the 17 And in paragraph 29 it says that on debtor, at least in the latter half of 2020, 18 18 December 30 -- I'm sorry, strike that. 19 included promissory notes from Mr. Dondero 19 In paragraph 29 it says (as read): 20 and other entities affiliated with 20 On December 3, 2020, at my Mr. Dondero; is that correct? 21 21 instruction, the debtor's counsel 22 Α. That's correct. 22 sent letters to representatives of 23 And some of those promissory notes 23 Mr. Dondero and each of the were demand notes; is that correct? 24 24 corporate obligors, demanding 25 25 Α. That's correct. payment of all unpaid principal Page 52 Page 53 1 J. Seery 1 J. Seery 2 and accrued interest due under the 2 Yes. Α. 3 demand notes by December 11, 2020. 3 Okay. And did you understand that 4 4 at that point in time that was a term note? Was that a true statement? 5 5 Α. Α. Yes. 6 Why did you decide to make demand 6 Okay. And, and did you have a -- a Ο. Q. 7 7 of the demand notes at that time? plan at that point in time as to -- and did 8 Well, it was pretty -- this will be 8 you -- pardon me. Strike all that. 9 a long answer, but it's pretty clear that I 9 Did you understand that -- that 10 made a mistake, that I should have demanded that had a thirty-year term originally when 10 payment from Mr. Dondero earlier in the case. 11 11 it was executed? 12 The demand notes were due and 12 Yeah, you should understand that --13 owing, they could be called at any time, and 13 and maybe you do, and that's -- so we'll make 14 I thought that leaving them outstanding would 14 sure the record is clear. 15 Each of the -- the term notes were 15 provide a way to facilitate a grand bargain, not term notes. They were -- they became 16 or a pot plan. 16 17 And by the time -- the beginning of 17 term notes because they were roll-up of December, when we knew we were moving forward demand notes, and they were roll-up of demand 18 18 19 with the monetization plan, it was time to 19 notes in 27 -- 2017, when things at the 20 start to collect the assets of the debtor, so 20 debtor and for Mr. Dondero became very 21 I made a decision that we should demand 21 precarious. 22 payment on each of the notes. 22 Certain lawsuits had been filed, 23 At that time, on December the 3rd, 23 the asset stripping in the Cayman Islands had 24 2020, were you aware of the \$30.7 million 24 begun. It was a difficult time. So without 25 NexPoint note? 25 any consideration whatsoever, Mr. Dondero, on

	5. 54		n ee
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	both sides, extended the terms rolled up	2	either the maker or the lender in 2017, when
3	those notes and extended the terms of those	3	these notes when this note was executed,
4	notes for thirty years and generally -	4	were you?
5	although not all - very low interest rate and	5	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
6	very easy terms, no no security, no	6	form of the question.
7	covenants.	7	A. I haven't been the maker or the, or
8	So those became the term notes, but	8	the or the lender on any of these notes.
9	they were always potentially subject to other	9	MR. RUKAVINA: Well, this is
10	litigation demands.	10	going to be Exhibit 5. This is the
11	Q. You weren't around with the debtor	11	note that we're here on today.
12	or NexPoint in 2017, were you?	12	(Exhibit 5, Promissory Note
13	A. No.	13	Dated May 31, 2017, marked for
14	Q. Okay. So you have no personal	14	identification, as of this date.)
15	knowledge about the execution of any notes at	15	(Brief off-record discussion.)
16	that time?	16	BY MR. RUKAVINA:
17	A. I, I would differ and say I do I	17	Q. So if we go to the last page of
18	wasn't in the room, but I have the evidence	18	this exhibit, this references prior notes,
19	by the virtue of the fact that I've seen the	19	and the body of this basically says that each
20	backup to the notes, and they actually	20	of the prior notes are superseded by the new
21	contain the schedule with the roll the	21	note, correct?
22	notes that are being rolled up.	22	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
23	Q. So you're you're making an	23	form of the question. Can you just
24	educated deduction, based on your	24	point that to Mr. Seery so
25	professional experience, but you aren't	25	Q. Sure. So, Mr. Seery, if you see
	Page 56		
1	<del>-</del>	1	J. Seerv
1 2	J. Seery	1 2	J. Seery
2	J. Seery Section 9, (as read):	1 2 3	J. Seery Q. Okay. Is is the logical
2 3	J. Seery Section 9, (as read): The original of each of the	2	J. Seery Q. Okay. Is is the logical conclusion that that on those five
2 3 4	J. Seery Section 9, (as read):	2 3	J. Seery Q. Okay. Is is the logical conclusion that that on those five promissory notes, not even all the interest
2 3	J. Seery Section 9, (as read): The original of each of the prior notes superseded hereby shall be marked void.	2 3 4	J. Seery Q. Okay. Is is the logical conclusion that that on those five promissory notes, not even all the interest had been kept current?
2 3 4 5	J. Seery Section 9, (as read): The original of each of the prior notes superseded hereby shall be marked void. A. Yes, so	2 3 4 5	J. Seery Q. Okay. Is is the logical conclusion that that on those five promissory notes, not even all the interest had been kept current? A. I, I
2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery Section 9, (as read):     The original of each of the     prior notes superseded hereby     shall be marked void.     A. Yes, so     Q. And then you see the prior notes in	2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery Q. Okay. Is is the logical conclusion that that on those five promissory notes, not even all the interest had been kept current? A. I, I MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery Section 9, (as read): The original of each of the prior notes superseded hereby shall be marked void. A. Yes, so	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery Q. Okay. Is is the logical conclusion that that on those five promissory notes, not even all the interest had been kept current? A. I, I MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.
2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery Section 9, (as read):     The original of each of the     prior notes superseded hereby     shall be marked void.     A. Yes, so     Q. And then you see the prior notes in the preamble?     A. Uh-huh.	2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery Q. Okay. Is is the logical conclusion that that on those five promissory notes, not even all the interest had been kept current? A. I, I MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. Yeah, I'd have to do the math on
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery Section 9, (as read):     The original of each of the     prior notes superseded hereby     shall be marked void.     A. Yes, so     Q. And then you see the prior notes in the preamble?     A. Uh-huh.     Q. So is this what you were just	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery Q. Okay. Is is the logical conclusion that that on those five promissory notes, not even all the interest had been kept current? A. I, I MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. Yeah, I'd have to do the math on each of them. You're talking about three
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	J. Seery Section 9, (as read):     The original of each of the     prior notes superseded hereby     shall be marked void.     A. Yes, so     Q. And then you see the prior notes in the preamble?     A. Uh-huh.     Q. So is this what you were just talking about, that this promissory note was	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	J. Seery Q. Okay. Is is the logical conclusion that that on those five promissory notes, not even all the interest had been kept current? A. I, I MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. Yeah, I'd have to do the math on each of them. You're talking about three years, 240 yeah, it looks roughly but not
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	J. Seery Section 9, (as read):     The original of each of the     prior notes superseded hereby     shall be marked void.     A. Yes, so     Q. And then you see the prior notes in the preamble?     A. Uh-huh.     Q. So is this what you were just	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	J. Seery Q. Okay. Is is the logical conclusion that that on those five promissory notes, not even all the interest had been kept current? A. I, I MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. Yeah, I'd have to do the math on each of them. You're talking about three years, 240 yeah, it looks roughly but not all of the it looks like some payments
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	J. Seery Section 9, (as read):     The original of each of the     prior notes superseded hereby     shall be marked void.     A. Yes, so     Q. And then you see the prior notes in the preamble?     A. Uh-huh.     Q. So is this what you were just talking about, that this promissory note was a roll-up of these five prior demand notes?     A. That's correct.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	J. Seery Q. Okay. Is is the logical conclusion that that on those five promissory notes, not even all the interest had been kept current? A. I, I MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. Yeah, I'd have to do the math on each of them. You're talking about three years, 240 yeah, it looks roughly but not all of the it looks like some payments were made, but but certainly on it
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	J. Seery Section 9, (as read):     The original of each of the     prior notes superseded hereby     shall be marked void.     A. Yes, so     Q. And then you see the prior notes in the preamble?     A. Uh-huh.     Q. So is this what you were just talking about, that this promissory note was a roll-up of these five prior demand notes?     A. That's correct.     Q. Okay. Now, if if we look at	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	J. Seery Q. Okay. Is is the logical conclusion that that on those five promissory notes, not even all the interest had been kept current? A. I, I MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. Yeah, I'd have to do the math on each of them. You're talking about three years, 240 yeah, it looks roughly but not all of the it looks like some payments were made, but but certainly on it doesn't look like it completely kept current,
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	J. Seery Section 9, (as read):     The original of each of the     prior notes superseded hereby     shall be marked void.     A. Yes, so     Q. And then you see the prior notes in the preamble?     A. Uh-huh.     Q. So is this what you were just talking about, that this promissory note was a roll-up of these five prior demand notes?     A. That's correct.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	J. Seery Q. Okay. Is is the logical conclusion that that on those five promissory notes, not even all the interest had been kept current? A. I, I MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. Yeah, I'd have to do the math on each of them. You're talking about three years, 240 yeah, it looks roughly but not all of the it looks like some payments were made, but but certainly on it doesn't look like it completely kept current, at least on some of these.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	J. Seery Section 9, (as read):     The original of each of the     prior notes superseded hereby     shall be marked void.     A. Yes, so     Q. And then you see the prior notes in the preamble?     A. Uh-huh.     Q. So is this what you were just talking about, that this promissory note was a roll-up of these five prior demand notes?     A. That's correct.     Q. Okay. Now, if if we look at this I'm looking at the last page here,	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	J. Seery Q. Okay. Is is the logical conclusion that that on those five promissory notes, not even all the interest had been kept current? A. I, I MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. Yeah, I'd have to do the math on each of them. You're talking about three years, 240 yeah, it looks roughly but not all of the it looks like some payments were made, but but certainly on it doesn't look like it completely kept current, at least on some of these. Q. Well, can you think of a reason
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	J. Seery Section 9, (as read):     The original of each of the     prior notes superseded hereby     shall be marked void.     A. Yes, so     Q. And then you see the prior notes in the preamble?     A. Uh-huh.     Q. So is this what you were just talking about, that this promissory note was a roll-up of these five prior demand notes?     A. That's correct.     Q. Okay. Now, if if we look at this I'm looking at the last page here, sir.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	J. Seery Q. Okay. Is is the logical conclusion that that on those five promissory notes, not even all the interest had been kept current? A. I, I MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. Yeah, I'd have to do the math on each of them. You're talking about three years, 240 yeah, it looks roughly but not all of the it looks like some payments were made, but but certainly on it doesn't look like it completely kept current, at least on some of these.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	J. Seery Section 9, (as read):  The original of each of the prior notes superseded hereby shall be marked void.  A. Yes, so Q. And then you see the prior notes in the preamble?  A. Uh-huh. Q. So is this what you were just talking about, that this promissory note was a roll-up of these five prior demand notes?  A. That's correct. Q. Okay. Now, if if we look at this I'm looking at the last page here, sir.  A. Uh-huh.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	J. Seery Q. Okay. Is is the logical conclusion that that on those five promissory notes, not even all the interest had been kept current? A. I, I MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. Yeah, I'd have to do the math on each of them. You're talking about three years, 240 yeah, it looks roughly but not all of the it looks like some payments were made, but but certainly on it doesn't look like it completely kept current, at least on some of these. Q. Well, can you think of a reason other than the failure to pay interest, can
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	J. Seery Section 9, (as read):     The original of each of the     prior notes superseded hereby     shall be marked void.     A. Yes, so     Q. And then you see the prior notes in the preamble?     A. Uh-huh.     Q. So is this what you were just talking about, that this promissory note was a roll-up of these five prior demand notes?     A. That's correct.     Q. Okay. Now, if if we look at this I'm looking at the last page here, sir.     A. Uh-huh.     Q. The initial note amount of the	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	J. Seery Q. Okay. Is is the logical conclusion that that on those five promissory notes, not even all the interest had been kept current? A. I, I MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. Yeah, I'd have to do the math on each of them. You're talking about three years, 240 yeah, it looks roughly but not all of the it looks like some payments were made, but but certainly on it doesn't look like it completely kept current, at least on some of these. Q. Well, can you think of a reason other than the failure to pay interest, can you think of reason as to why the initial note amount increased by at least \$3 million
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	J. Seery Section 9, (as read):     The original of each of the     prior notes superseded hereby     shall be marked void.     A. Yes, so     Q. And then you see the prior notes in the preamble?     A. Uh-huh.     Q. So is this what you were just talking about, that this promissory note was a roll-up of these five prior demand notes?     A. That's correct.     Q. Okay. Now, if if we look at this I'm looking at the last page here, sir.     A. Uh-huh.     Q. The initial note amount of the original five was 27,675,000; is that	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	J. Seery Q. Okay. Is is the logical conclusion that that on those five promissory notes, not even all the interest had been kept current? A. I, I MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. Yeah, I'd have to do the math on each of them. You're talking about three years, 240 yeah, it looks roughly but not all of the it looks like some payments were made, but but certainly on it doesn't look like it completely kept current, at least on some of these. Q. Well, can you think of a reason other than the failure to pay interest, can you think of reason as to why the initial
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Page 58 Page 59 1 J. Seery 1 J. Seery whether there were times where it didn't pay 2 prior to the time that you became CEO/CRO, 2 3 down, but certainly in the -- in the 3 the debtor was lax in its enforcement of its rights as the payee under promissory notes 4 aggregate, they didn't pay down. And so I 4 5 5 from the advisors? just don't know if it was -- if there was 6 some payments or not; I don't recall. 6 That's --7 Okay. And -- and we're not here on 7 MR. MORRIS: Objection to form of 8 the HCMFA note, but are you general --8 the question. 9 generally familiar that in April of 2019, 9 That's completely unfair. 10 Mr. Dondero executed a document that took two 10 (Simultaneous speaking.) promissory notes that HCMFA had issued that 11 -- virtually no basis for you to 11 Α. 12 were demand notes and extended them until May 12 say something like that. 13 31, 2021? 13 It's a demand note that hadn't been 14 14 Α. That's not what it did, no. demanded, and then -- then it was to a third 15 Q. What do you understand happened? 15 party, so they could rely on the fact that 16 HCMFA would have -- wouldn't have to have 16 It, it -- they were -- they were 17 demand notes without maturity, and the -- the 17 outflows to payoff demands that could happen 18 obligor was given the statement from the 18 at any time; that gave an agreement to extend 19 holder, HCMLP, that it wouldn't collect on 19 the term, which is not really a term, it's 20 those notes until May 31, 2021. 20 just we won't demand it. 21 So how -- how you call that lax, 21 And that was done because HCMFA did 22 not have the money to pay, and because it was 22 I -- that doesn't have -- has nothing to do 23 an advisor, it had to make representations 23 with being lax. 24 that it could support itself. 24 Well, I thought you testified a few 25 25 0. So is it fair to say that, at least minutes ago that, at least in 2017, the Page 60 Page 61 1 1 J. Seery J. Seery 2 debtor was facing serious problems and that 2 Okay. Okay. So is it your Q. 3 Mr. Dondero was rolling up these notes for --3 testimony, sir, that prior to you becoming 4 4 for some ulterior purpose? CEO/CRO, the debtor did or did not enforce 5 Not ulterior purpose. The purpose 5 its rights as the payee under various 6 is really, really obvious. He wanted to 6 promissory notes according to industry 7 7 extend out the term so that they wouldn't standards, as you would understand them to 8 become due, couldn't be demanded at any time. 8 be? 9 Okay. So that -- that goes back to 9 MR. MORRIS: Objection to the 10 my question, which you said was not a fair 10 form of the question. I think industry standards are --11 question --11 12 Α. No, I said your characterization 12 are a bit nebulous, particularly when you're 13 was unfair. You can't call that being lax. 13 talking about the payee and the payor being 14 It's a demand note. You can either demand it 14 controlled by the same person. But I think 15 15 or not demand it, but if you don't demand it, there's nothing uncommon about letting a note accrue when it's permitted to accrue. 16 it doesn't mean you're being lax. 16 17 Okay. Fair enough. But if, if --17 Ο. Do you believe that there -- strike so we're still on Exhibit 5. 18 18 that. 19 If the debtor had allowed for these 19 Do you believe that the debtor, 20 five notes' accrued interest to go unpaid for 20 prior to you becoming CEO/CRO, had acted 21 a period of one or more years, wouldn't that 21 inappropriately with permitting the roll-up 22 suggest to you that the debtor was, as -- as 22 of these five notes into Exhibit 5 or -- or 23 a payee, not strictly enforcing its rights? 23 changing the -- the HCMFA notes from demand

24

25

I believe the underlying terms

24

25

Α.

allowed it to accrue.

MR. MORRIS: Objection to the

to May 31, 2021?

	Page 62		Page 63
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	form of the question.	2	note, number Exhibit 5
3	A. Yeah, with with respect to the	3	A. Yes.
4	HCMFA, I don't know I don't think that's	4	Q on December 3, 2020?
5	inappropriate, based on the shared services	5	A. Yes.
6	and a tangential relationship between the	6	Q. Okay. What was the plan back then?
7	affiliates, although clearly it was	7	A. It depended on what happened to the
8	aggrandizing to Mr. Dondero and his	8	note, but ultimately we would seek to sell
9	interests, which it syphoned off tons of	9	the note because of its long tenor, but
10	value from the debtor as opposed to HCMLP.	10	likely we would end up suing Mr or NPA,
11	With respect to the roll-up of	11	the the maker of the note, for fraudulent
12	these notes for thirty years, without	12	conveyance in 2017.
13	without real consideration, I think that that	13	Q. On account of the roll-up?
14	was	14	A. Correct.
15	(Reporter clarification.)	15	Q. Okay. Did the debtor ever actually
16	THE WITNESS: Inappropriate, yes.	16	solicit any offers of whereby someone
17	BY MR. RUKAVINA:	17	might buy this note, No. 5, Exhibit 5?
18	Q. So if we go back now to December of	18	A. No.
19	2020, early December of 2020, you've made	19	Q. Okay. Did you form an opinion or
20	demand - as we've just read in your	20	were were you given an opinion from a
21	declaration - on demand notes, and you've	21	non-lawyer as to what the monetization value
22	testified that you were aware of the	22	of this note, Exhibit 5, might have been in
23	existence of this note.	23	early December of 2020?
24	Did you, at that point in time,	24	A. I we did form an opinion, and
25	have any plans as to how to monetize this	25	and we discounted it substantially.
23	have any prans as to now to monetize this	23	and we discounted it substantially.
	D 64		
1	Page 64	1	Page 65
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	J. Seery Q. Can you tell the Court	2	J. Seery A. I I think hoping is is not
2	J. Seery Q. Can you tell the Court approximately what amount?	2 3	J. Seery A. I I think hoping is is not the right term. I think I I assumed that
2 3 4	J. Seery Q. Can you tell the Court approximately what amount? A. Off the top of my head, I don't	2 3 4	J. Seery  A. I I think hoping is is not the right term. I think I I assumed that they wouldn't, because you'd have to not
2 3 4 5	J. Seery Q. Can you tell the Court approximately what amount? A. Off the top of my head, I don't recall.	2 3 4 5	J. Seery  A. I I think hoping is is not the right term. I think I I assumed that they wouldn't, because you'd have to not understand, you know, what happens when you
2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery Q. Can you tell the Court approximately what amount? A. Off the top of my head, I don't recall. Q. Okay. But but substantially?	2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery A. I I think hoping is is not the right term. I think I I assumed that they wouldn't, because you'd have to not understand, you know, what happens when you default on a term note and it gets
2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery Q. Can you tell the Court approximately what amount? A. Off the top of my head, I don't recall. Q. Okay. But but substantially? A. Substantially. The reason is	2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery  A. I I think hoping is is not the right term. I think I I assumed that they wouldn't, because you'd have to not understand, you know, what happens when you default on a term note and it gets accelerated.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery Q. Can you tell the Court approximately what amount? A. Off the top of my head, I don't recall. Q. Okay. But but substantially? A. Substantially. The reason is pretty obvious. This is a if you don't	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery  A. I I think hoping is is not the right term. I think I I assumed that they wouldn't, because you'd have to not understand, you know, what happens when you default on a term note and it gets accelerated.  But if it happened, if I had
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	Q. Can you tell the Court approximately what amount? A. Off the top of my head, I don't recall. Q. Okay. But but substantially? A. Substantially. The reason is pretty obvious. This is a if you don't win the fraudulent conveyance suit, you've got a long-dated note with Mr. Dondero on the other side.  He's not generally viewed as a creditworthy counter-party and he controls the inflows that go into NPA. So the chances you are ever going to be paid early are extremely low, and the chances that it's going to default are probably pretty high. Q. And this was an unsecured note, correct? A. That's correct. Q. Okay. So you going into	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	J. Seery  A. I I think hoping is is not the right term. I think I I assumed that they wouldn't, because you'd have to not understand, you know, what happens when you default on a term note and it gets accelerated.  But if it happened, if I had that if that fortune befell the estate, I thought that would be a good thing.  Q. Let's look at the some of the terms of this note, sir. So we're on Exhibit 5. And in particular, Section 2.1, sir, the second sentence says (as read):  Borrower shall pay the annual installment on the 31st day of December of each calendar year.  Do you see that sentence, sir?  A. I do.  Q. Do you believe that that means that the payment must be on the 31st of December
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1	D		D (7
1	Page 66 J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	paragraph 3 says you can prepay.	2	to unpaid principal hereof -
3	Q. Well, so you see how how this	3	correct?
4	Section 2.1 uses the word "borrower," right?	4	A. Correct.
5	A. Yes.	5	Q. Okay. So that, that goes that
6	Q. And borrower isn't defined here,	6	ties back to your prior answer, that even
7	but logically it's maker, right?	7	though Section 2.1 says on the 31st day of
8	A. Correct.	8	December, it's logical to read it on or
9	Q. Okay. So that's just probably	9	before the 31st day of December?
10	sloppiness, right?	10	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
11	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	11	form of the question.
12	form of the question.	12	A. It, it it would be. Your
13	A. Appears to be.	13	your interest amounts would be different but
14	Q. Okay. And then you, you	14	yes.
15	actually you saw Section 3, that talks	15	Q. Okay. Well, can so going back
16	about the the prepayment (as read):	16	to Section 3, it says prepay accrued
17	Maker may prepay in whole or	17	interest.
18	in part the unpaid principal or	18	How does one prepay accrued
19	accrued interest of this note.	19	interest?
20	Do you see that, sir?	20	A. Interest accrues on this note. How
21	A. Yes.	21	you prepay it is you send the money before
22	Q. Okay. (As read):	22	the accrual date.
23	Any payments on this note	23	Q. Okay. Fair enough. And going back
24	shall be applied first to unpaid	24	to Section 3, the the style of that
25	accrued interest hereon and then	25	section - whatever the word is - it says
	Page 68		Page 69
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	prepayment allowed, renegotiation	2	the payee, could negotiate/renegotiate or
3	discretionary.	3	not.
4	You see where it says renegotiation	4	In fact, it says that. Because it
5	discretionary?	5	says it as a waiver, that the maker hereby
6	A. Yes.	6	waives any grace, demand, presentment it's
7	Q. Can you can you see anything	7	got a very clear, broad waiver of any kind of
8	actually in that paragraph that talks about a	8	implication that there might be some courtesy
9	renegotiation?	9	+b-+ +b
1			that the payee would have to give to the
10	A. Nope.	10	maker.
11	Q. Okay. And just to to be clear,	11	maker. MR. RUKAVINA: Are we on 6?
11 12	Q. Okay. And just to to be clear, do you see anything in here that talks about	11 12	maker.  MR. RUKAVINA: Are we on 6?  Okay. Sir, I'm going to hand you
11 12 13	Q. Okay. And just to to be clear, do you see anything in here that talks about that headings are for stylistic purposes only	11 12 13	maker.  MR. RUKAVINA: Are we on 6?  Okay. Sir, I'm going to hand you  what's what's going to be marked as
11 12 13 14	Q. Okay. And just to to be clear, do you see anything in here that talks about that headings are for stylistic purposes only and have no meaning?	11 12 13 14	maker.  MR. RUKAVINA: Are we on 6?  Okay. Sir, I'm going to hand you  what's what's going to be marked as  Exhibit 6, which is your January 7, 2021
11 12 13 14 15	Q. Okay. And just to to be clear, do you see anything in here that talks about that headings are for stylistic purposes only and have no meaning?  A. I I don't see anything	11 12 13 14 15	maker.  MR. RUKAVINA: Are we on 6?  Okay. Sir, I'm going to hand you  what's what's going to be marked as  Exhibit 6, which is your January 7, 2021  letter.
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11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	Q. Okay. And just to to be clear, do you see anything in here that talks about that headings are for stylistic purposes only and have no meaning?  A. I I don't see anything Q. Okay.  A that says that.  I just think that, one, the headings are probably appropriate; two, renegotiation is always discretionary.  Q. Okay. Well, but nothing in here suggests to you, does it, sir, that that the debtor was prohibited from renegotiating	11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	MR. RUKAVINA: Are we on 6?  Okay. Sir, I'm going to hand you what's what's going to be marked as Exhibit 6, which is your January 7, 2021 letter.  (Exhibit 6, Correspondence Dated January 7, 2021, marked for identification, as of this date.)  (Brief off-record discussion.)  THE WITNESS: By the way, who's who's Aaron Lawrence? I didn't see that person earlier.  MR. MORRIS: That is, I think, a

	D 70	1	D 71
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	MR. MORRIS: Or an assistant,	2	Q. And you authorized this document to
3	maybe an associate.	3	be issued to NexPoint Advisors?
4	I apologize if you're an attorney.	4	A. I did, yes.
5	I apologize. In any event, but but,	5	Q. Okay. Did you discuss this
6	Mr. Lawrence you're with Quinn, right?	6	document, prior to you sending it, with the
7	MR. LAWRENCE: Yes, I am.	7	independent board?
8	MR. MORRIS: Yeah, thank you.	8	A. Yes.
9	MR. LAWRENCE: I I've I've	9	Q. Okay. And what do you recall about
10	taken the bar.	10	that discussion? Who was there; how did it
11	MR. MORRIS: Yeah. Oh, okay.	11	happen?
12	Thank you.	12	A. I don't recall it specifically.
13	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Does that	13	That would be at regular meetings and we
14	imply you've just taken the bar?	14	talked about the case. This came shortly
15	MR. LAWRENCE: Yes.	15	after as we were moving towards I don't
16	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Okay. Thank	16	remember the exact confirmation date, but it
17	you.	17	was, you know, in and around that time. And
18	(Simultaneous speaking.)	18	this was a material asset of the estate, so
19	BY MR. RUKAVINA:	19	talking to them about that would have been
20	Q. Mr. Seery, you have Exhibit 6.	20	normal course of action.
21	Do you recognize this document?	21	Q. Part of what you discussed with
22	A. I do, yes.	22	them, was it how the debtor should respond to
23	Q. Okay. And and that's your	23	the missed December 31 payment?
24	electronic signature there?	24	A. I don't I don't think that's a
25	A. That is.	25	fair characterization. I would have said
		1	
	Dama 72		Page 72
1	Page 72 J. Seery	1	Page 73 J. Seery
1 2	<del>-</del>	1 2	-
	J. Seery		J. Seery
2	J. Seery that they missed the payment, we're going to	2	J. Seery incorrect?
2 3	J. Seery that they missed the payment, we're going to accelerate it unless you have some objection.	2 3	J. Seery incorrect? A. I don't I don't think that's
2 3 4	J. Seery that they missed the payment, we're going to accelerate it unless you have some objection. They didn't object. This would have been	2 3 4	J. Seery incorrect?  A. I don't I don't think that's fair.
2 3 4 5	J. Seery that they missed the payment, we're going to accelerate it unless you have some objection. They didn't object. This would have been standard for anyone I know who's a holder of	2 3 4 5	J. Seery incorrect?  A. I don't I don't think that's fair. Q. Okay.
2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery that they missed the payment, we're going to accelerate it unless you have some objection. They didn't object. This would have been standard for anyone I know who's a holder of a note.	2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery incorrect?  A. I don't I don't think that's fair.  Q. Okay. A. I take I take notes but not
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery that they missed the payment, we're going to accelerate it unless you have some objection. They didn't object. This would have been standard for anyone I know who's a holder of a note. Q. So there was no discussion with the board about maybe giving NexPoint a chance to	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery incorrect?  A. I don't I don't think that's fair.  Q. Okay.  A. I take I take notes but not always.  Q. Do you have any memory, not that
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	J. Seery  that they missed the payment, we're going to accelerate it unless you have some objection.  They didn't object. This would have been standard for anyone I know who's a holder of a note.  Q. So there was no discussion with the board about maybe giving NexPoint a chance to fix that default before sending this note?  A. No.  Q. Okay. Same question: Did you discuss the substance of this letter, before you sent it, with the committee?  A. I doubt it and I don't recall. I don't think so. It wouldn't it wouldn't have been if there had been a committee	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	incorrect?  A. I don't I don't think that's fair.  Q. Okay.  A. I take I take notes but not always.  Q. Do you have any memory, not that you should, as to whether you took any notes of the the meeting with the other board members we just discussed, about where the substance of this letter was discussed?  A. I don't recall. It would have been unusual for me to put the substance of that kind of board meeting - if it was a board meeting or if it was just a call - into
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	J. Seery that they missed the payment, we're going to accelerate it unless you have some objection. They didn't object. This would have been standard for anyone I know who's a holder of a note.  Q. So there was no discussion with the board about maybe giving NexPoint a chance to fix that default before sending this note?  A. No.  Q. Okay. Same question: Did you discuss the substance of this letter, before you sent it, with the committee?  A. I doubt it and I don't recall. I don't think so. It wouldn't it wouldn't have been if there had been a committee call, we would have told them about it, but I wouldn't have been seeking permission.  Q. Okay. Did you keep notes of your	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	incorrect?  A. I don't I don't think that's fair.  Q. Okay.  A. I take I take notes but not always.  Q. Do you have any memory, not that you should, as to whether you took any notes of the the meeting with the other board members we just discussed, about where the substance of this letter was discussed?  A. I don't recall. It would have been unusual for me to put the substance of that kind of board meeting - if it was a board meeting or if it was just a call - into notes, because I would have had minutes, and if it was just a call for something like
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	J. Seery  that they missed the payment, we're going to accelerate it unless you have some objection.  They didn't object. This would have been standard for anyone I know who's a holder of a note.  Q. So there was no discussion with the board about maybe giving NexPoint a chance to fix that default before sending this note?  A. No.  Q. Okay. Same question: Did you discuss the substance of this letter, before you sent it, with the committee?  A. I doubt it and I don't recall. I don't think so. It wouldn't it wouldn't have been if there had been a committee call, we would have told them about it, but I wouldn't have been seeking permission.  Q. Okay. Did you keep notes of your meetings or discussions with the other board	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	incorrect?  A. I don't I don't think that's fair.  Q. Okay.  A. I take I take notes but not always.  Q. Do you have any memory, not that you should, as to whether you took any notes of the the meeting with the other board members we just discussed, about where the substance of this letter was discussed?  A. I don't recall. It would have been unusual for me to put the substance of that kind of board meeting - if it was a board meeting or if it was just a call - into notes, because I would have if it's a board meeting, we would have had minutes, and if it was just a call for something like this, it wouldn't have risen to the level of
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	that they missed the payment, we're going to accelerate it unless you have some objection. They didn't object. This would have been standard for anyone I know who's a holder of a note.  Q. So there was no discussion with the board about maybe giving NexPoint a chance to fix that default before sending this note?  A. No.  Q. Okay. Same question: Did you discuss the substance of this letter, before you sent it, with the committee?  A. I doubt it and I don't recall. I don't think so. It wouldn't it wouldn't have been if there had been a committee call, we would have told them about it, but I wouldn't have been seeking permission.  Q. Okay. Did you keep notes of your meetings or discussions with the other board members generally?	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	incorrect?  A. I don't I don't think that's fair.  Q. Okay.  A. I take I take notes but not always.  Q. Do you have any memory, not that you should, as to whether you took any notes of the the meeting with the other board members we just discussed, about where the substance of this letter was discussed?  A. I don't recall. It would have been unusual for me to put the substance of that kind of board meeting - if it was a board meeting or if it was just a call - into notes, because I would have if it's a board meeting, we would have had minutes, and if it was just a call for something like this, it wouldn't have risen to the level of we're taking notes and writing it down.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	that they missed the payment, we're going to accelerate it unless you have some objection. They didn't object. This would have been standard for anyone I know who's a holder of a note.  Q. So there was no discussion with the board about maybe giving NexPoint a chance to fix that default before sending this note?  A. No.  Q. Okay. Same question: Did you discuss the substance of this letter, before you sent it, with the committee?  A. I doubt it and I don't recall. I don't think so. It wouldn't it wouldn't have been if there had been a committee call, we would have told them about it, but I wouldn't have been seeking permission.  Q. Okay. Did you keep notes of your meetings or discussions with the other board members generally?  A. Sometimes. Not not always. It	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	incorrect?  A. I don't I don't think that's fair.  Q. Okay.  A. I take I take notes but not always.  Q. Do you have any memory, not that you should, as to whether you took any notes of the the meeting with the other board members we just discussed, about where the substance of this letter was discussed?  A. I don't recall. It would have been unusual for me to put the substance of that kind of board meeting - if it was a board meeting or if it was just a call - into notes, because I would have if it's a board meeting, we would have had minutes, and if it was just a call for something like this, it wouldn't have risen to the level of we're taking notes and writing it down.  Q. Okay.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	that they missed the payment, we're going to accelerate it unless you have some objection. They didn't object. This would have been standard for anyone I know who's a holder of a note.  Q. So there was no discussion with the board about maybe giving NexPoint a chance to fix that default before sending this note?  A. No.  Q. Okay. Same question: Did you discuss the substance of this letter, before you sent it, with the committee?  A. I doubt it and I don't recall. I don't think so. It wouldn't it wouldn't have been if there had been a committee call, we would have told them about it, but I wouldn't have been seeking permission.  Q. Okay. Did you keep notes of your meetings or discussions with the other board members generally?  A. Sometimes. Not not always. It depends.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	incorrect?  A. I don't I don't think that's fair.  Q. Okay.  A. I take I take notes but not always.  Q. Do you have any memory, not that you should, as to whether you took any notes of the the meeting with the other board members we just discussed, about where the substance of this letter was discussed?  A. I don't recall. It would have been unusual for me to put the substance of that kind of board meeting - if it was a board meeting or if it was just a call - into notes, because I would have if it's a board meeting, we would have had minutes, and if it was just a call for something like this, it wouldn't have risen to the level of we're taking notes and writing it down.  Q. Okay.  A. I didn't have any reason to record

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Page 74
                                                                                                        Page 75
 1
                      J. Seery
                                                        1
                                                                              J. Seery
     they're -- they're pretty honest folks.
                                                        2
 2
                                                             any of those meetings?
 3
               Okay. Did -- did either you or
                                                        3
                                                                Α.
                                                                       No, never.
 4
     anyone video-record or audio-record any of
                                                        4
                                                                       Did you keep any calendar or
 5
     the discussions that you had with the other
                                                             logbook where you might be able to find the
                                                        5
 6
    board members ever?
                                                        6
                                                             dates on which you had any call or meeting
 7
                                                        7
                                                             with the other board members?
         Α.
 8
         0.
               Okay. Were any of those meetings
                                                        8
                                                                       If it was an official board
9
    with the other board members by Zoom or
                                                        9
                                                            meeting, certainly it would have been in
10
                                                        10
                                                             Outlook.
               Very few, I mean, typically not.
                                                        11
                                                                       Okay. And if it was an official
11
         A.
                                                                 Ο.
12
               Okay. The very few that might have
                                                        12
                                                             board meeting, would there have been an
         0.
     taken place, do you recall if -- if anyone
                                                       13
13
                                                             agenda circulated prior to the meeting?
14
     pressed a record button on Zoom or Webex?
                                                        14
                                                                       Not always, because these were
15
               Nobody would have.
                                                        15
                                                             always done - particularly at this time,
         Α.
                                                             where we were in litigation - with counsel.
16
         Q.
               Okay.
                                                        16
17
                                                        17
                                                                       And I take it that they would have
         Α.
               I can't imagine anyone would have
                                                             been done more or less sometimes on an ad-hoc
18
     recorded it without requesting permission
                                                        18
19
     from the other participants.
                                                        19
                                                             basis because of developments that might
20
               We didn't do much in that group by
                                                        20
                                                             happen?
     Zoom or Webex, we just -- it wasn't standard
21
                                                        21
                                                                Α.
                                                                       They -- they could, yes.
22
     operating procedure for the group.
                                                        22
                                                                 Ο.
                                                                       Okay. Did you -- in responding to
23
               Do you recall any of the other
                                                        23
                                                             my discovery requests in this NexPoint
24
                                                        24
    board members, or anyone else on any board,
                                                             lawsuit, did you consult any of your
                                                        25
25
     discussing -- seeking permission to record
                                                             handwritten notes, as to whether there was
                                                Page 76
                                                                                                        Page 77
1
                        J. Seery
                                                        1
                                                                              J. Seery
 2
       anything in there responsive?
                                                        2
                                                             to the debtor's or the reorganized debtor's
 3
                 I believe I looked -- I want to
                                                        3
                                                             counsel any handwritten notes for potential
 4
                                                        4
                                                             review and production?
       make sure I don't -- I don't know if I can
 5
       distinguish between your requests and the
                                                        5
                                                                       I don't believe I did, because if
 6
       other requests around these notes, but I
                                                             I -- if I found something, I would have but
                                                        6
7
       certainly looked through some of my notes to
                                                        7
                                                             I -- but I didn't find something
8
       see if I had any specific items that might
                                                             specifically, I didn't -- wouldn't have given
9
       have been requested. I don't recall if there
                                                        9
                                                             notes that were nonresponsive.
10
       was something about whether I had a
                                                        10
                                                                       Similar question: Did you -- you
       conversation with John --
11
                                                        11
                                                             have a Gmail account by email, right?
12
                 (Reporter clarification.)
                                                       12
                                                                 Α.
                                                                       I do, yes.
13
                 THE WITNESS: John Dubel and Russ
                                                        13
                                                                       Okay. And -- and I'm not an
14
           Nelms, the other directors.
                                                       14
                                                             expert, but that wouldn't be on the debtor's
                                                             or reorganized debtor's server, would it?
     BY MR. RUKAVINA:
                                                        15
15
                 But you do recall, in response to
                                                        16
                                                                       It would not.
16
                                                                 A.
17
       discovery requests, looking at your
                                                        17
                                                                       Okay. Did you review your personal
       handwritten notes to see if there was
                                                             emails with respect to whether there was
18
                                                        18
19
       something responsive?
                                                        19
                                                             anything responsive there to the discovery
20
                 Yes, and I just don't recall the
                                                        20
                                                             requests in this NexPoint lawsuit?
21
       specific topics, because there were some that
                                                        21
                                                                Α.
22
       were specific topics particularly around the,
                                                        22
                                                                       Okay. And if you found something,
23
       the -- the made-up story about a subsequent
                                                        23
                                                             did you send it to counsel for potential
24
       event and things like that kind of nonsense.
                                                        24
                                                             review for privilege and potential production
25
                 Do you recall whether you provided
                                                        25
                                                             to me?
```

Page 78 Page 79 1 J. Seery 1 J. Seery 2 2 A. Yes. emails that we produced --3 3 Q. Okay. Did you, on your own, (Simultaneous speaking.) MR. RUKAVINA: I'm totally fine 4 withhold anything believing -- well, strike 4 5 5 that. with that. 6 Is it fair to say that anything you 6 I just want to make sure that you, 7 thought might be responsive you provided to 7 Mr. Seery, did not --8 counsel? 8 Α. No, I didn't ---- intentionally -- intentionally 9 I did, and I provided them complete 9 10 access to my email. 10 withhold anything just because you didn't And you didn't intentionally 11 want it produced? 11 12 withhold anything that might be -- strike 12 No, certainly not, nor -- neither 13 that. 13 intentionally nor accidentally, because I 14 Other than privileged material, did 14 turned everything over. 15 you intentionally withhold anything that you 15 Understood. Going back to believed was responsive to my discovery 16 16 Exhibit 6, I've asked you about the board, 17 requests? 17 I've asked you about the committee. 18 18 A. I -- I didn't withhold anything. And you -- you said, I believe, 19 If there was -- determined to be privileged, 19 that you don't remember having a discussion 20 then it would have been determined by 20 about the substance of Exhibit 6 with the committee, right? 21 counsel. 21 22 Ο. Understood. 22 I don't think I -- certainly not in 23 MR. MORRIS: And if it was --23 advance of it, I would not -- it wouldn't 24 just to be clear, Davor, if it was have been standard to -- to do that, unless 24 25 25 determined to be duplicative of other there had been a meeting right around then, Page 80 Page 81 1 J. Seery 1 J. Seery 2 and I would have mentioned that I had done 2 Well, I don't recall a meeting Α. 3 this. 3 around this, so I -- I certainly wouldn't 4 4 Did -- similar to the -- the prior recall an agenda. Q. 5 answer, would you have recorded in Outlook or 5 Ο. Now I'm going to ask about 6 some other means any meetings that you had Mr. Waterhouse. 6 7 7 with the committee in the January 2021 time Before you authorized this letter, 8 frame? Exhibit 6, to go out, did you discuss the 9 Yeah, it would have -- any meetings 9 substance of this letter with Mr. Waterhouse? Α. 10 with the committee would have been official. 10 I don't believe so. Α. Okay. You could -- you could find How did you find out that the 11 11 12 out what days those would have been had on? 12 December 31, 2020 payment had not been made 13 13 Α. I believe so, yes. by NexPoint? 14 And prior to these meetings, and 14 I believe I was told during the 15 15 I'm talking about January 2021 now, were cash-flow meetings that we had weekly. there -- was there an agenda shared in 16 Okay. What -- was that like a 16 certain set day of the week or --17 advance either by the debtor or by the 17 committee? Α. Yeah. 18 18 19 Α. I believe oftentimes there was with 19 What day of the week was --Q. 20 20 the committee. -- was either Tuesday or Wednesday. Α. 21 Do you recall - and I think I know 21 Okay. Do you recall who told you Ο. your answer - whether there was any such 22 22 that this payment had not been made? 23 agenda related to whether the debtor should 23 I don't recall specifically, no. Α. 24 declare the NexPoint note, Exhibit 5, 24 Q. Okay. Would you have received a 25 immediately due and payable? 25 report from which that would have been

			1
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	evident?	2	A. Typically it would be sometimes
3	A. I would get a cash flow,	3	Frank Waterhouse, Kristin Hendrix, Dave
4	thirteen-week	4	Klos - not always but most of the time - and
5	(Reporter clarification.)	5	Jack Donohue from DSI
6	THE WITNESS: Thirteen-week cash	6	Q. Okay.
7	flow. I'm sorry.	7	A. Fred Caruso as well, I believe
8	Q. So so to the best of your	8	Q. So in
9	recollection, do you recall, on the one hand,	9	A DSI.
10	whether someone told you, Mr. Seery, NexPoint	10	Q in early January 2021, do you
11	didn't pay or, on the other hand, whether you	11	have any reason to believe that any of those
12	said where is NexPoint's payment?	12	meetings would have been recorded visually or
13	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	13	audio-recorded?
14	form of the question.	14	A. No, I would think they would not
15	A. I I don't recall. It could	15	have been.
16	have it could have easily been either,	16	Q. Would any meetings I'm sorry,
17	because it certainly would have been	17	strike that any minutes of those
18	something I would have asked about. NexPoint	18	discussions have been kept?
19	and others had already failed to pay their	19	A. No, no minutes would have been
20	shared service payments, so it was a question	20	kept.
21	as to whether any other payments would be	21	Q. So you would get the, the the
22	coming.	22	thirteen-week report you mentioned.
23	Q. Okay. And who would have logically	23	Would you get any other documents
24	been, pursuant to your course of practice, on	24	in the nature of an agenda or an update to
25	these weekly cash flow meetings?	25	you as the chief executive?
	1		
		_	
1	Page 84 J. Seery	1	Page 85 J. Seery
	J. Seery		J. Seery
1 2 3	J. Seery A. I don't	1 2 3	J. Seery anyone at the debtor the fact that NexPoint
2	J. Seery A. I don't MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	2	J. Seery anyone at the debtor the fact that NexPoint hadn't made the payment and that you were
2 3 4	J. Seery A. I don't MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.	2 3 4	J. Seery anyone at the debtor the fact that NexPoint hadn't made the payment and that you were going to do something about that payment?
2	J. Seery  A. I don't  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  form of the question.  A. I I don't believe so with	2	J. Seery anyone at the debtor the fact that NexPoint hadn't made the payment and that you were going to do something about that payment?  A. I would have only discussed it I
2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery  A. I don't  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.  A. I I don't believe so with respect to the thirteen-week cash flow	2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery anyone at the debtor the fact that NexPoint hadn't made the payment and that you were going to do something about that payment?  A. I would have only discussed it I think I would only have discussed it with
2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery  A. I don't  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.  A. I I don't believe so with respect to the thirteen-week cash flow discussion.	2 3 4 5	J. Seery anyone at the debtor the fact that NexPoint hadn't made the payment and that you were going to do something about that payment?  A. I would have only discussed it I think I would only have discussed it with counsel and with DSI, had DSI get the
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery  A. I don't  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.  A. I I don't believe so with respect to the thirteen-week cash flow discussion.  Q. So what what do you remember	2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery anyone at the debtor the fact that NexPoint hadn't made the payment and that you were going to do something about that payment?  A. I would have only discussed it I think I would only have discussed it with counsel and with DSI, had DSI get the outstanding full amount up to whatever date
2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery  A. I don't  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  form of the question.  A. I I don't believe so with  respect to the thirteen-week cash flow  discussion.  Q. So what what do you remember  saying or doing right then, when you learned	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery anyone at the debtor the fact that NexPoint hadn't made the payment and that you were going to do something about that payment?  A. I would have only discussed it I think I would only have discussed it with counsel and with DSI, had DSI get the outstanding full amount up to whatever date we were going to set in the demand notice,
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	J. Seery  A. I don't  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.  A. I I don't believe so with respect to the thirteen-week cash flow discussion.  Q. So what what do you remember	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery anyone at the debtor the fact that NexPoint hadn't made the payment and that you were going to do something about that payment?  A. I would have only discussed it I think I would only have discussed it with counsel and with DSI, had DSI get the outstanding full amount up to whatever date we were going to set in the demand notice, and then send out the demand notice.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	J. Seery  A. I don't  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  form of the question.  A. I I don't believe so with respect to the thirteen-week cash flow discussion.  Q. So what what do you remember saying or doing right then, when you learned that NexPoint did not make a December 31 payment?	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	J. Seery anyone at the debtor the fact that NexPoint hadn't made the payment and that you were going to do something about that payment?  A. I would have only discussed it I think I would only have discussed it with counsel and with DSI, had DSI get the outstanding full amount up to whatever date we were going to set in the demand notice, and then send out the demand notice.  I wasn't going to advertise to
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	J. Seery  A. I don't MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.  A. I I don't believe so with respect to the thirteen-week cash flow discussion.  Q. So what what do you remember saying or doing right then, when you learned that NexPoint did not make a December 31 payment?  A. I don't recall the specific date,	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	J. Seery anyone at the debtor the fact that NexPoint hadn't made the payment and that you were going to do something about that payment?  A. I would have only discussed it I think I would only have discussed it with counsel and with DSI, had DSI get the outstanding full amount up to whatever date we were going to set in the demand notice, and then send out the demand notice.  I wasn't going to advertise to anybody exactly what I was doing, because
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	J. Seery  A. I don't  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  form of the question.  A. I I don't believe so with  respect to the thirteen-week cash flow  discussion.  Q. So what what do you remember  saying or doing right then, when you learned that NexPoint did not make a December 31  payment?  A. I don't recall the specific date, but as soon as I knew that the payment was	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	anyone at the debtor the fact that NexPoint hadn't made the payment and that you were going to do something about that payment?  A. I would have only discussed it I think I would only have discussed it with counsel and with DSI, had DSI get the outstanding full amount up to whatever date we were going to set in the demand notice, and then send out the demand notice.  I wasn't going to advertise to anybody exactly what I was doing, because HCMLP had the right to do what it could do.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	J. Seery  A. I don't MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.  A. I I don't believe so with respect to the thirteen-week cash flow discussion.  Q. So what what do you remember saying or doing right then, when you learned that NexPoint did not make a December 31 payment?  A. I don't recall the specific date,	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	anyone at the debtor the fact that NexPoint hadn't made the payment and that you were going to do something about that payment?  A. I would have only discussed it I think I would only have discussed it with counsel and with DSI, had DSI get the outstanding full amount up to whatever date we were going to set in the demand notice, and then send out the demand notice.  I wasn't going to advertise to anybody exactly what I was doing, because HCMLP had the right to do what it could do.  Q. Okay. And I'm going to struggle to
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	J. Seery  A. I don't  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  form of the question.  A. I I don't believe so with  respect to the thirteen-week cash flow discussion.  Q. So what what do you remember  saying or doing right then, when you learned that NexPoint did not make a December 31  payment?  A. I don't recall the specific date, but as soon as I knew that the payment was late, I would have accelerated the note and	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	anyone at the debtor the fact that NexPoint hadn't made the payment and that you were going to do something about that payment?  A. I would have only discussed it I think I would only have discussed it with counsel and with DSI, had DSI get the outstanding full amount up to whatever date we were going to set in the demand notice, and then send out the demand notice.  I wasn't going to advertise to anybody exactly what I was doing, because HCMLP had the right to do what it could do.  Q. Okay. And I'm going to struggle to ask the next question, so it's going to take
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1	Page 86 J. Seery	1	Page 87 J. Seery
2	Q. This payment.	2	best interest to have this happen.
3	A. No.	3	Overall, I think we will collect
4	(Reporter clarification.)	4	it, and it will be in our interest rather
5	MR. MORRIS: I'm sorry, objection	5	than having a thirty-year note to owed by
6	to form.	6	NPA, to have a collected amount, which I
7	THE WITNESS: And I said I	7	expect to collect in full.
8	think my answer was no.	8	Q. As opposed to selling the note at a
9	BY MR. RUKAVINA:	9	substantial discount, correct?
10		10	A. That would have been one of the
11	Q. So we've we've learned that in early December of 2020, the debtor was going	11	
12	to be able to strike that.	12	options, yes, or suing on a fraudulent
l			conveyance.
13	You agree with me that in December	13	(Reporter clarification.)
14	of 2020, it would have been to the debtor's	14	THE WITNESS: On a fraudulent
15	economic advantage for NexPoint to miss the	15	conveyance.
16	annual payment?	16	BY MR. RUKAVINA:
17	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	17	Q. So again, without ascribing any
18	form of the question.	18	mal-intent here, it turned out for the debtor
19	A. I I don't know if that's fair,	19	to be better, in December of 2020, that
20	because right now we're having to deal with	20	NexPoint missed its payment, correct?
21	what I would say are completely nonsensical	21	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
22	defenses and spend millions of dollars to	22	form of the question.
23	collect what are obviously true and owing	23	A. Again, we'll we'll find out
24	amounts that are due to the debtor. So I	24	after we collect.
25	don't know that it was necessarily in our	25	Q. Okay. So I just want to again
	Page 88	_	Page 89
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	J. Seery round off	2	J. Seery Q. Do you recall who calculated that
2 3	J. Seery round off A. Quite quite clearly, though,	2 3	J. Seery Q. Do you recall who calculated that amount?
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			1
1	Page 90 J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	when or why? Because I'll represent to you	2	right?
3	that it was just produced to us like this,	3	A. There
4	without any kind of context.	4	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
5	A. I I don't know specifically, no.	5	form of the question.
6	Q. You don't know specifically, but	6	A there were but there's a very
7	could it be DSI?	7	odd entry above that, on 12/30/19 with a
8	Is this the kind of does it look	8	instead of having parentheses, having a
9	like the kind of report that DSI would have	9	negative sign.
10	made?	10	I'm not sure if that's a payment or
11	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	11	what that is.
12	form of the question.	12	Q. Well, let's scroll back to the
13	A. I don't think so. I would think	13	first page and see what these headings are.
14	this would have been produced by NPA or or	14	So if we look in the far right
15	HCMLP's accounting group.	15	column, total paid, do you see that, sir?
16	Q. Well, scroll down to the next page	16	A. Yes, I do.
17	Mr. Nguyen.	17	Q. And principal paid.
18	So you see, sir, on 5/31/2020, a	18	So scroll back to the next page,
19	(Reporter clarification.)	19	Mr. Nguyen.
20	MR. RUKAVINA: I'm sorry.	20	Do you see those now, the payments?
21	Q. A \$575,550.56 payment made?	21	A. I do. I just I'm just pointing
22	A. Yes.	22	out that that's
23	Q. Okay. And prior to that, there had	23	Q. Okay.
24	been advanced payments, or or payments on	24	A not a correct way to do it, but
25	more than just the principal and interest,	25	it could have just maybe they did it as a
	more than just the principal and interest,	23	it could have just maybe they are it as a
1	Page 92		Page 93
1 1			T Coorman
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	negative number as opposed to having it	2	at some point in the previous to that?
2 3	negative number as opposed to having it negative in the in the Excel file	2 3	at some point in the previous to that?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
2 3 4	negative number as opposed to having it negative in the in the Excel file Q. Well, sir	2 3 4	at some point in the previous to that?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.
2 3 4 5	negative number as opposed to having it negative in the in the Excel file Q. Well, sir A automatically.	2 3 4 5	at some point in the previous to that?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.  A. I don't believe that I did.
2 3 4 5 6	negative number as opposed to having it negative in the in the Excel file Q. Well, sir A automatically. Q how do you know that the note	2 3 4 5 6	at some point in the previous to that?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.  A. I don't believe that I did.  Q. Okay.
2 3 4 5 6 7	negative number as opposed to having it negative in the in the Excel file Q. Well, sir A automatically. Q how do you know that the note hadn't be been prepaid, that the December 31,	2 3 4 5 6 7	at some point in the previous to that?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.  A. I don't believe that I did.  Q. Okay.  A. We certainly had discussions on
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2	you understand at that point in time, on or	2	anticipating, as to because they had not
3	before January 7, 2021, why NexPoint didn't	3	made the payment in on the shared
4	make the December 31 payment?	4	services, as with all the other related
5	A. I don't recall if I knew before	5	entities, because Dondero had directed that
6	that	6	those payments not be made. So I was curious
7	Q. Okay.	7	as to whether they were going to make the
8	A or right around that time	8	payments that were due on the term notes.
9	Q. Okay.	9	Q. So let's, let's let's break that
10	A but I I came to know	10	down.
11	(Simultaneous speaking.)	11	I had asked you before, I believe,
12	Q. You came to know it?	12	as to how you learned of the lack of payment.
13	A. Uh-huh.	13	Now I'm asking you, once you learned about
14	Q. Do you recall if you asked anyone,	14	the lack of payment, did you ask why didn't
15	prior to sending this letter, why that	15	the payment get made?
16	payment hadn't been made or did someone	16	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
17	volunteer that information to you?	17	form of the question.
18	(Simultaneous speaking and	18	A. No, I I don't think I would have
19	reporter interjection.)	19	asked why the payment didn't get made.
20	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	20	Either as I said, either right before
21	form of the question.	21	this, at this time or shortly thereafter, I
22	A. I I think you asked me that	22	learned I knew that the other payments
23	already. I'm not sure if I asked about it	23	hadn't been made. I believe that I knew that
24	being made or someone pointed it out to me.	24	Dondero had directed that. I just don't know
25	It was certainly a a topic I was	25	exactly, around these notes, about all of the
	- 04		
1	Page 96 J. Seery	1	Page 97 J. Seery
1 2	<del>-</del>	1 2	
	J. Seery		J. Seery
2	J. Seery payments; if it was before or right around	2	J. Seery recollection, Dondero told Waterhouse, who
2 3	J. Seery payments; if it was before or right around thereafter.	2 3	J. Seery recollection, Dondero told Waterhouse, who told Hendrix, who told you?
2 3 4	J. Seery payments; if it was before or right around thereafter. Q. And when you say before or right	2 3 4	J. Seery recollection, Dondero told Waterhouse, who told Hendrix, who told you? A. Correct.
2 3 4 5	J. Seery payments; if it was before or right around thereafter. Q. And when you say before or right around thereafter, are you referring to	2 3 4 5	J. Seery recollection, Dondero told Waterhouse, who told Hendrix, who told you? A. Correct. Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that
2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery payments; if it was before or right around thereafter. Q. And when you say before or right around thereafter, are you referring to January 7, 2021?	2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery recollection, Dondero told Waterhouse, who told Hendrix, who told you? A. Correct. Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that before you sent this Exhibit 6, this letter,
2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery payments; if it was before or right around thereafter. Q. And when you say before or right around thereafter, are you referring to January 7, 2021? A. Correct.	2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery recollection, Dondero told Waterhouse, who told Hendrix, who told you? A. Correct. Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that before you sent this Exhibit 6, this letter, the debtor could have undertaken some action
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery  payments; if it was before or right around thereafter.  Q. And when you say before or right around thereafter, are you referring to January 7, 2021?  A. Correct.  Q. Okay. And and so you can't tell	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery recollection, Dondero told Waterhouse, who told Hendrix, who told you? A. Correct. Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that before you sent this Exhibit 6, this letter, the debtor could have undertaken some action in the nature of trying to get NexPoint to
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery payments; if it was before or right around thereafter.  Q. And when you say before or right around thereafter, are you referring to January 7, 2021?  A. Correct.  Q. Okay. And and so you can't tell me right now the exact date, but whenever you	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery recollection, Dondero told Waterhouse, who told Hendrix, who told you?  A. Correct.  Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that before you sent this Exhibit 6, this letter, the debtor could have undertaken some action in the nature of trying to get NexPoint to cure its default?
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	J. Seery payments; if it was before or right around thereafter.  Q. And when you say before or right around thereafter, are you referring to January 7, 2021?  A. Correct.  Q. Okay. And and so you can't tell me right now the exact date, but whenever you learned about why the payment the NexPoint	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	J. Seery recollection, Dondero told Waterhouse, who told Hendrix, who told you?  A. Correct.  Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that before you sent this Exhibit 6, this letter, the debtor could have undertaken some action in the nature of trying to get NexPoint to cure its default?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	J. Seery  payments; if it was before or right around thereafter.  Q. And when you say before or right around thereafter, are you referring to January 7, 2021?  A. Correct.  Q. Okay. And and so you can't tell me right now the exact date, but whenever you learned about why the payment the NexPoint payment hadn't been made, what did you learn?	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	J. Seery recollection, Dondero told Waterhouse, who told Hendrix, who told you?  A. Correct.  Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that before you sent this Exhibit 6, this letter, the debtor could have undertaken some action in the nature of trying to get NexPoint to cure its default?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the A. The debtor could have, yes.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	J. Seery payments; if it was before or right around thereafter.  Q. And when you say before or right around thereafter, are you referring to January 7, 2021?  A. Correct.  Q. Okay. And and so you can't tell me right now the exact date, but whenever you learned about why the payment the NexPoint payment hadn't been made, what did you learn?  A. I learned that the NexPoint payment	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	J. Seery recollection, Dondero told Waterhouse, who told Hendrix, who told you?  A. Correct.  Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that before you sent this Exhibit 6, this letter, the debtor could have undertaken some action in the nature of trying to get NexPoint to cure its default?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the A. The debtor could have, yes.  Q. And you made the decision
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	payments; if it was before or right around thereafter.  Q. And when you say before or right around thereafter, are you referring to January 7, 2021?  A. Correct.  Q. Okay. And and so you can't tell me right now the exact date, but whenever you learned about why the payment the NexPoint payment hadn't been made, what did you learn?  A. I learned that the NexPoint payment hadn't been made.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	J. Seery recollection, Dondero told Waterhouse, who told Hendrix, who told you?  A. Correct.  Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that before you sent this Exhibit 6, this letter, the debtor could have undertaken some action in the nature of trying to get NexPoint to cure its default?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  A. The debtor could have, yes.  Q. And you made the decision ultimately to let's just say call the note
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	payments; if it was before or right around thereafter.  Q. And when you say before or right around thereafter, are you referring to January 7, 2021?  A. Correct.  Q. Okay. And and so you can't tell me right now the exact date, but whenever you learned about why the payment the NexPoint payment hadn't been made, what did you learn?  A. I learned that the NexPoint payment hadn't been made.  Q. Okay. I'm sorry. What did you	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	J. Seery recollection, Dondero told Waterhouse, who told Hendrix, who told you?  A. Correct.  Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that before you sent this Exhibit 6, this letter, the debtor could have undertaken some action in the nature of trying to get NexPoint to cure its default?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  A. The debtor could have, yes.  Q. And you made the decision ultimately to let's just say call the note immediately due and payable?
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	payments; if it was before or right around thereafter.  Q. And when you say before or right around thereafter, are you referring to January 7, 2021?  A. Correct.  Q. Okay. And and so you can't tell me right now the exact date, but whenever you learned about why the payment the NexPoint payment hadn't been made, what did you learn?  A. I learned that the NexPoint payment hadn't been made.  Q. Okay. I'm sorry. What did you learn about why it hadn't been made?	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	J. Seery recollection, Dondero told Waterhouse, who told Hendrix, who told you?  A. Correct.  Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that before you sent this Exhibit 6, this letter, the debtor could have undertaken some action in the nature of trying to get NexPoint to cure its default?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the A. The debtor could have, yes.  Q. And you made the decision ultimately to let's just say call the note immediately due and payable?  A. That's correct.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	payments; if it was before or right around thereafter.  Q. And when you say before or right around thereafter, are you referring to January 7, 2021?  A. Correct.  Q. Okay. And and so you can't tell me right now the exact date, but whenever you learned about why the payment the NexPoint payment hadn't been made, what did you learn?  A. I learned that the NexPoint payment hadn't been made.  Q. Okay. I'm sorry. What did you learn about why it hadn't been made?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	J. Seery recollection, Dondero told Waterhouse, who told Hendrix, who told you?  A. Correct.  Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that before you sent this Exhibit 6, this letter, the debtor could have undertaken some action in the nature of trying to get NexPoint to cure its default?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  A. The debtor could have, yes.  Q. And you made the decision ultimately to let's just say call the note immediately due and payable?  A. That's correct.  Q. Why did you make that decision as
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	payments; if it was before or right around thereafter.  Q. And when you say before or right around thereafter, are you referring to January 7, 2021?  A. Correct.  Q. Okay. And and so you can't tell me right now the exact date, but whenever you learned about why the payment the NexPoint payment hadn't been made, what did you learn?  A. I learned that the NexPoint payment hadn't been made.  Q. Okay. I'm sorry. What did you learn about why it hadn't been made?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	J. Seery recollection, Dondero told Waterhouse, who told Hendrix, who told you?  A. Correct.  Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that before you sent this Exhibit 6, this letter, the debtor could have undertaken some action in the nature of trying to get NexPoint to cure its default?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  A. The debtor could have, yes.  Q. And you made the decision ultimately to let's just say call the note immediately due and payable?  A. That's correct.  Q. Why did you make that decision as opposed to seeing, with NexPoint, if something could be worked out?  A. Number one, I'm a fiduciary. I'm a
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	payments; if it was before or right around thereafter.  Q. And when you say before or right around thereafter, are you referring to January 7, 2021?  A. Correct.  Q. Okay. And and so you can't tell me right now the exact date, but whenever you learned about why the payment the NexPoint payment hadn't been made, what did you learn?  A. I learned that the NexPoint payment hadn't been made.  Q. Okay. I'm sorry. What did you learn about why it hadn't been made?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of  A. I was told that Mr. Dondero	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	J. Seery  recollection, Dondero told Waterhouse, who  told Hendrix, who told you?  A. Correct.  Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that  before you sent this Exhibit 6, this letter,  the debtor could have undertaken some action  in the nature of trying to get NexPoint to  cure its default?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  A. The debtor could have, yes.  Q. And you made the decision  ultimately to let's just say call the note  immediately due and payable?  A. That's correct.  Q. Why did you make that decision as  opposed to seeing, with NexPoint, if  something could be worked out?
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	payments; if it was before or right around thereafter.  Q. And when you say before or right around thereafter, are you referring to January 7, 2021?  A. Correct.  Q. Okay. And and so you can't tell me right now the exact date, but whenever you learned about why the payment the NexPoint payment hadn't been made, what did you learn?  A. I learned that the NexPoint payment hadn't been made.  Q. Okay. I'm sorry. What did you learn about why it hadn't been made?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of  A. I was told that Mr. Dondero directed that no payments be made to the	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	J. Seery recollection, Dondero told Waterhouse, who told Hendrix, who told you?  A. Correct.  Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that before you sent this Exhibit 6, this letter, the debtor could have undertaken some action in the nature of trying to get NexPoint to cure its default?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  A. The debtor could have, yes.  Q. And you made the decision ultimately to let's just say call the note immediately due and payable?  A. That's correct.  Q. Why did you make that decision as opposed to seeing, with NexPoint, if something could be worked out?  A. Number one, I'm a fiduciary. I'm a
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	payments; if it was before or right around thereafter.  Q. And when you say before or right around thereafter, are you referring to January 7, 2021?  A. Correct.  Q. Okay. And and so you can't tell me right now the exact date, but whenever you learned about why the payment the NexPoint payment hadn't been made, what did you learn?  A. I learned that the NexPoint payment hadn't been made.  Q. Okay. I'm sorry. What did you learn about why it hadn't been made?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of  A. I was told that Mr. Dondero directed that no payments be made to the debtor.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	recollection, Dondero told Waterhouse, who told Hendrix, who told you?  A. Correct.  Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that before you sent this Exhibit 6, this letter, the debtor could have undertaken some action in the nature of trying to get NexPoint to cure its default?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  A. The debtor could have, yes.  Q. And you made the decision ultimately to let's just say call the note immediately due and payable?  A. That's correct.  Q. Why did you make that decision as opposed to seeing, with NexPoint, if something could be worked out?  A. Number one, I'm a fiduciary. I'm a fiduciary to HCMLP. It's my job to maximize
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	payments; if it was before or right around thereafter.  Q. And when you say before or right around thereafter, are you referring to January 7, 2021?  A. Correct.  Q. Okay. And and so you can't tell me right now the exact date, but whenever you learned about why the payment the NexPoint payment hadn't been made, what did you learn?  A. I learned that the NexPoint payment hadn't been made.  Q. Okay. I'm sorry. What did you learn about why it hadn't been made?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of  A. I was told that Mr. Dondero directed that no payments be made to the debtor.  Q. Who told you that?	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	recollection, Dondero told Waterhouse, who told Hendrix, who told you?  A. Correct.  Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that before you sent this Exhibit 6, this letter, the debtor could have undertaken some action in the nature of trying to get NexPoint to cure its default?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  A. The debtor could have, yes.  Q. And you made the decision ultimately to let's just say call the note immediately due and payable?  A. That's correct.  Q. Why did you make that decision as opposed to seeing, with NexPoint, if something could be worked out?  A. Number one, I'm a fiduciary. I'm a fiduciary to HCMLP. It's my job to maximize the value of the estate and to collect the assets of the estate, including this note.  Number two, in furtherance of that
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	payments; if it was before or right around thereafter.  Q. And when you say before or right around thereafter, are you referring to January 7, 2021?  A. Correct.  Q. Okay. And and so you can't tell me right now the exact date, but whenever you learned about why the payment the NexPoint payment hadn't been made, what did you learn?  A. I learned that the NexPoint payment hadn't been made.  Q. Okay. I'm sorry. What did you learn about why it hadn't been made?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of  A. I was told that Mr. Dondero directed that no payments be made to the debtor.  Q. Who told you that?  A. I believe it was Kristin Hendrix	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	recollection, Dondero told Waterhouse, who told Hendrix, who told you?  A. Correct.  Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that before you sent this Exhibit 6, this letter, the debtor could have undertaken some action in the nature of trying to get NexPoint to cure its default?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  A. The debtor could have, yes.  Q. And you made the decision ultimately to let's just say call the note immediately due and payable?  A. That's correct.  Q. Why did you make that decision as opposed to seeing, with NexPoint, if something could be worked out?  A. Number one, I'm a fiduciary. I'm a fiduciary to HCMLP. It's my job to maximize the value of the estate and to collect the assets of the estate, including this note.  Number two, in furtherance of that duty, the note specifically provides that
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	payments; if it was before or right around thereafter.  Q. And when you say before or right around thereafter, are you referring to January 7, 2021?  A. Correct.  Q. Okay. And and so you can't tell me right now the exact date, but whenever you learned about why the payment the NexPoint payment hadn't been made, what did you learn?  A. I learned that the NexPoint payment hadn't been made.  Q. Okay. I'm sorry. What did you learn about why it hadn't been made?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of  A. I was told that Mr. Dondero directed that no payments be made to the debtor.  Q. Who told you that?  A. I believe it was Kristin Hendrix who had heard it from Frank Waterhouse, was	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	recollection, Dondero told Waterhouse, who told Hendrix, who told you?  A. Correct.  Q. Okay. So do you agree with me that before you sent this Exhibit 6, this letter, the debtor could have undertaken some action in the nature of trying to get NexPoint to cure its default?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  A. The debtor could have, yes.  Q. And you made the decision ultimately to let's just say call the note immediately due and payable?  A. That's correct.  Q. Why did you make that decision as opposed to seeing, with NexPoint, if something could be worked out?  A. Number one, I'm a fiduciary. I'm a fiduciary to HCMLP. It's my job to maximize the value of the estate and to collect the assets of the estate, including this note.  Number two, in furtherance of that

J. Seery  J. J. Man J. Seery  J. Seery  J. J. J. J. J. J. J. Seery  J. Seery				
3 CRecess taken.) 4 is due and oxing. 5	1	Page 98 J. Seery	1	J. Seery
4 UIDEO TECHNICIAN: The time is 5 0. And I believe you've called my 5 defensee nonemenical, right? 7 A. There — there's so many different 8 ones, but most of them, yeah. 9 Q. Okay. And did you take any steps, 10 prior to sending Exhibit 6, to see if 11 payment hadn't been made? 12 payment hadn't been made? 13 A. No. 14 Q. Okay. And again, you didn't ask 15 anyone whether that note had been prepaid? 16 A. We had discussed the note and what 17 was due and owing, so it had never been 18 volunteered to me that it otherwise had been 19 prepaid in a way that would have onviated the 19 need to make this payment, so it's pretty 21 clear that this payment had to be made. 22 MCR. RUKAVINA: Okay. I need a 23 restroom break. Five or ten minutes? 24 (Simultaneous speaking) 25 VIDRO TECHNICIAN: The time is 26 (Simultaneous speaking) 27 a little too quickly, and so I will try to be a little bin more clear. I've been bouncing 28 between the camera and the court reporter. 29 a little too quickly, and so I will try to be a little bin more clear. I've been bouncing 29 between the camera and the court reporter. 30 O. Okay. Ald again, you said you don't think 12 that there is any enail or recording of what 11 there ill be no payments as being the little will be marked as 122. 20 Okay. Ald says. 21 I think you should look at this one. 32 O. Okay. Ald says it to me. 43 O. Okay. Ald says it to me. 44 O. Okay. Ald says it to me. 55 O. Okay. Ald and never been 56 O. Okay. Ald and never been 57 O. Okay. Did you read all or part of a segosition? 58 O. Okay. Did you read any of the video of it? 59 O. Okay. Did you read any of the video of it? 50 O. Okay. Did you read any of the video of it? 50 O. Okay. Did you read any of my the will you have any wore of a recollection as to the time, whether it's prior to or before 19 O. Okay. Did you read any of my the will you have any wore of a recollection as to the time, whether it's prior to or before 19 O. Okay. But you learned that? 51 O. Okay. Ald - and during the break. 19 O. Okay. Did you read	2	waived any notice of presentment, any demand.	2	3:18. We're going off the record.
5 Q. And I believe you've called my 6 defenses nonsensical, right? 7 A. There — there's so many different 8 ones, but most of them, yeah. 9 Q. Okay. And did you take any ateps, 10 prior to sending Exhibit 6, to see if 11 ResPoint had any defenses as to why that 12 payment hadn't beem made? 13 A. No. 14 Q. Okay. And again, you didn't ask 15 anyone whether that note had been prepaid? 16 A. We had discussed the note and what 17 was due and owing, so it had never been 18 volunteered to me that it otherwise had been 19 prepaid in a way that would have obristed the 19 need to make this payment had to be made. 20 need to make this payment had to be made. 21	3	Once the payment is missed, the entire amount	3	(Recess taken.)
6 defenses noneensical, right? 7 A. There — there's so many different ones, but most of them, yeah. 9 Q. Okay. And did you take any steps, 9 Q. Okay. And did you take any steps, 10 prior to sending Exhibit 6, to see if 10 prior to sending Exhibit 6, to see if 10 prior to sending Exhibit 6, to see if 10 prior to sending Exhibit 6, to see if 10 emailed to Mr. Morris and the court 11 NosPoint had any defenses as to why that 11 payment had not be not be and what 12 payment had not be had been prepaid? 15 anyone whether that note had been prepaid? 15 anyone whether that note had been prepaid? 16 A. We had discussed the note and what 17 was due and owing, so it had never been 18 volunteered to me that it otherwise had been 19 prepaid in a way that would have obviated the 19 prepaid in a way that would have obviated	4	is due and owing.	4	VIDEO TECHNICIAN: The time is
A. There — there's so many different 8 ones, but most of them, yeah. 9 O. Okay. And did you take any steps, 10 prior to sending Exhibit 6, to see if 11 NexPoint had any defenses as to why that 12 payment hadn't been made? 13 A. No. 14 Q. Okay. And again, you didn't ask 15 anyone whether that note had been prepaid? 16 A. We had discussed the note and what 17 was due and owing, so it had never been 18 volunteered to me that it otherwise had been 19 prepaid in a wsy that would have obviated the 19 need to make this payment, so it's pretty 20 clear that this payment had to be made. 21 mentioned that Ms. Hendrix told you that 22 mentioned that Ms. Hendrix told you that 23 restroom break. Five or ten minutes? 24 (Simultaneous speaking.) 25 VIDBO TECHNICIAN: The time is 26 little bit more clear. I've been bouncing 27 between the camera and the court reporter. 28 Q. I think you should look at this 29 one. 20 I think you should look at this 29 one. 30 Okay. And - and during the break, that there is any enail or recording of what 31 Mr. Dondero said, correct? 42 A. Not ony recollection, no. 8e 43 didn't he didn't say it to me. 44 a. Not to my recollection, no. 8e 45 didn't he didn't say it to me. 46 O. Okay. And and during the break, 17 did you have any more of a recollection as to the the time, whether it's prior to or before 48 provided the say ago? 49 a couple/three days ago? 40 clear that this gayment had to be made. 41	5	Q. And I believe you've called my	5	3:29. We're back on the record.
8 ones, but most of them, yeah. 9	6	defenses nonsensical, right?	6	MR. RUKAVINA: So, just for the
9 0. Okay. And did you take any steps, 10 prior to sending Exhibit 6, to see if 11 NexPoint had any defenses as to why that 11 reporter, and it will be marked as 12 payment hadn't been made? 12 Exhibit 7. Loan Document 13 A. No. 13 (Exhibit 7. Loan Document 14 D-NNL-029141, marked for 15 identification, as of this date.) 15 identification, as of this date.) 16 May R. RIKAVINA: 16 May a volunteered to me that it otherwise had been 17 prepaid in a way that would have obviated the 18 payment had to be made. 20 need to make this payment, so it's pretty 21 clear that this payment, so it's pretty 22 May R. RIKAVINA: Okay. I need a 12 restroom break. Five or ten minutes? 13 reporter during the break that I was speaking 14 a little too quickly, and so I will try to 15 slow down quite a bit. And I'll try to be a 16 little bit more clear. I've been bouncing between the camera and the court reporter. 8 Q. I think you should look at this 9 one. 9 of it? 10 A. Okay. 11 Q. So, again, you said you don't think 12 that there is any email or recording of what 13 Mr. Dondero said, correct? 14 A. Not only recollection, no. He 16 didn't he didn't say it to me. 15 Exhibit 6, that you learned that? 15 Nondero said, correct? 19 Exhibit 6, that you learned that? 19 A. Ye you ware that 20 Q. Okay. And and during the break, 16 didn't he didn't say it to or before 19 Exhibit 6, that you learned that? 19 A. Ye you ware that 20 Q. Okay. And and during the break, 16 A. I, I, I I do not have any 21 additional recollection, no. 22 Q. Okay. Are you aware that 22 Q. Okay. But it's your tead that? 24 A. Ye you have hat were 18 A. Ye you have entry to you recall if you read the word of the time. 19 A. Yes. 20 Q. Okay. Do you recall if you read the word of my comments ago is spoing to be emailed to Mr. Morris and the court 17 Demanded the 19 D-NNL-029141, marked for identification, as of this date.) 16 HY MR. RIKAVINA: 16 NR. RIKAVIN	7	A. There there's so many different	7	record, the document that my associate
prior to sending Exhibit 6, to see if  NexPoint had any defenses as to why that  NexPoint had any defenses as to why that  No.  Okay. And again, you didn't ask anyone whether that note had been prepaid?  A. We had discussed the note and what prepaid in a way that would have obviated the note and that this payment, so it's pretty clear that this payment, so it's pretty clear that this payment, so it's pretty clear that this payment had to be made.  MR. RUKAVINA: Okay. I need a restroom break. Five or ten minutes? Cismultaneous speaking.)  VIDEO TECHNICIAN: The time is  J. Seery  is that I was admonished by the court reporter during the break that I was speaking a little too quickly, and so I will try to se a little bit more clear. I've been bouncing one.  Okay.  Okay.  A. No. Okay.  Okay.  A. No. Okay.  Okay.  A. Not omy recollection, no.  Ethibit 6, that you learned that?  A. I, I, I I do not have any additional recollection, no.  Exhibit 7.  Chair identification, as of this date.)  Familia identification, as of this date.)  BYMR. RUKAVINA:  WR. RUKAVI	8	ones, but most of them, yeah.	8	showed to Mr. Seery during questioning
11   NexPoint had any defenses as to why that   12   reporter, and it will be marked as   Exhibit 7. Loan Document	9	Q. Okay. And did you take any steps,	9	a few moments ago is going to be
11   NexPoint had any defenses as to why that   12   reporter, and it will be marked as   Exhibit 7. Loan Document	10	prior to sending Exhibit 6, to see if	10	emailed to Mr. Morris and the court
13 A. No. 14 Q. Okay. And again, you didn't ask 15 anyone whether that note had been prepaid? 16 A. We had discussed the note and what 17 was due and owing, so it had never been 18 volunteered to me that it otherwise had been 19 prepaid in a way that would have obviated the 19 prepaid in a way that would have obviated the 19 prepaid in a way that would have obviated the 20 need to make this payment, so it's pretty 21 clear that this payment had to be made. 22 MR. SUKAYINA: Okay. I need a 23 restroom break. Five or ten minutes? 24 (Simultaneous speaking.) 25 VIDEO TECHNICIAN: The time is 26 (Simultaneous speaking.) 27 is that I was admonished by the court 28 reporter during the break that I was speaking 29 a little bot more clear. I've been bouncing 29 between the camera and the court reporter. 29 one. 20 A. Okay. 21 (A. Not to my recollection, no. He 22 that there is any email or recording of what 23 that Not to my recollection, no. He 24 (A. Not to my recollection, no. He 25 the time, whether it's prior to or before 26 Exhibit 7, Loan Document 27 identification, as of this date.) 28 PMR. RUKAVINA: 29 (Nr. Seery, before the break you mentioned that Ms. Hendrix told you that 20 mentioned that Ms. Hendrix told you that 20 Mr. Waterhouse told her that Mr. Dondero said that there'll be no payments — whatever 20 words you used; that's not my question. 21 Mr. Seery 22 (Simultaneous speaking.) 23 A. I don't believe so. 24 A. I don't believe so. 25 One thing that I just wanted to add 26 his deposition? 27 A. Yes. 28 Q. Okay. All of it? 28 A. No. 29 (Okay. Did you read all or part of his deposition? 29 A. I ton't believe so. 30 (Nokay. Did you read all or part of his deposition? 31 Mr. Dondero said, correct? 32 A. Yes. 33 (Okay. Did you read any of my examination of him: 44 A. Not to my recollection as to the time, whether it's prior to or before 45 Co. Okay. Did you read any of my examination of him: 46 Q. Okay. Do you recall if you read the whole of my examination of him: 47 Q. Okay. Did you read the last part of your	11	NexPoint had any defenses as to why that	11	reporter, and it will be marked as
14	12	payment hadn't been made?	12	Exhibit 7.
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17 was due and owing, so it had never been volunteered to me that it otherwise had been prepaid in a way that would have obviated the need to make this payment, so it's pretty clear that this payment had to be made. 21 that this payment had to be made. 22 MR. RUKAVINA: Okay. I need a 23 restroom break. Five or ten minutes? 23 restroom break. Five or ten minutes? 24 (Simultaneous speaking.) 25 VIDEO TECHNICIAN: The time is 25 One thing that I just wanted to add 26 is that I was admonished by the court 3 reporter during the break that I was speaking 4 a little too quickly, and so I will try to 5 slow down quite a bit. And I'll try to be a 6 little bit more clear. I've been bouncing 6 between the camera and the court reporter. 8 Q. I think you should look at this 9 one. 9 of it? A. No. 10 Q. So, again, you said you don't think 11 MR. Bedray and or any email or recording of what 12 that there is any email or recording of what 15 didn't he didn't say it to me. 16 Q. Okay. And and during the break. 17 did you have any more of a recollection, no. 18 the time, whether it's prior to or before 19 Exhibit 6, that you learned that? 19 additional recollection, no. 20 Q. Okay. Are you aware that 21 MR. Machouse was deposed a couple days ago, 24 deposition transcript?	15		15	identification, as of this date.)
18 volunteered to me that it otherwise had been 19 prepaid in a way that would have obviated the 20 need to make this payment, so it's pretty 21 clear that this payment had to be made. 22 MR. RUKAVINA: Okay. I need a 23 restroom break. Five or ten minutes? 24 (Simultaneous speaking.) 25 VIDEO TECHNICIAN: The time is 26 VIDEO TECHNICIAN: The time is 27 J. Seery 28 is that I was admonished by the court 39 reporter during the break that I was speaking 40 a little too quickly, and so I will try to 50 slow down quite a bit. And I'll try to be a 61 little bit more clear. I've been bouncing 70 between the camera and the court reporter. 80 Q. I think you should look at this 90 one. 91 Q. So, again, you said you don't think 11 that there is any email or recording of what 12 that there is any email or recording of what 13 Mr. Waterhouse told her that Mr. Dondero said 14 that there'll be no payments whatever 15 words you used: that Ms. Hendrix told you that 16 W. Waterhouse told her that Mr. Dondero said 17 that there'll be no payments whatever 18 words you used: that Ms. Hendrix told you that 19 Mr. Waterhouse told her that Mr. Dondero said 10 that there'll be no payments whatever 11 words you used: that's not my question. 12 Mr. Waterhouse told her that Mr. Dondero said 12 words you used: that's not my question. 13 Mr. Waterhouse was: 14 A Yes. 15 Q. Okay. All of you have that in 16 A. Yes. 17 Q. Okay. Did you read all or part of 18 A. Yes. 19 Okay. Did you read any of my 10 Okay. Did you read any of my 11 Q. Okay. Do you recall if you read 12 examination of him? 13 A. Yes. 14 A. Not to my recollection, no. He 15 didn't he didn't say it to me. 16 Q. Okay. All or and during the break, 17 did you have any more of a recollection as to 18 the time, whether it's prior to or before 19 Exhibit 6, that you learned that? 20 A. I, I, I I do not have any 21 additional recollection, no. 22 Q. Okay. Are you aware that 23 Mr. Waterhouse was deposed a couple days ago, 24 a couple/three days ago? 25 One thing that Ms. He	16		16	BY MR. RUKAVINA:
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22 MR. RUKAVINA: Okay. I need a 23 restroom break. Five or ten minutes? 24 (Simultaneous speaking.) 25 VIDEO TECHNICIAN: The time is 26 J. Seery 27 is that I was admonished by the court 28 a little too quickly, and so I will try to 29 solve down quite a bit. And I'll try to be a little bit more clear. I've been bouncing 29 between the camera and the court reporter. 29 g. I think you should look at this 20 g. I think you should look at this 21 didn't he didn't say it to me. 22 d. Okay. Did you read all or part of his deposition? 29 of it? 20 Okay. All of it? 30 A. No. 31 Q. So, again, you said you don't think that there is any email or recording of what didn't he didn't say it to me. 31 Q. Okay. And and during the break, did you have any more of a recollection as to the time, whether it's prior to or before Exhibit 6, that you learned that? 20 Okay. But it's your testimony that would have any additional recollection, no. 21 Q. Okay. Are you aware that 22 Q. Okay. But it's your testimony that you have any wore of a recolled as ago, a couple/three days ago? 24 A. I don't believe so. 25 One thing that I just wanted to add nor thing the deposition? 28 A. I don't believe so. 29 Okay. Did you read all or part of a his deposition? 4 A. Yes. 90 Okay. Did you see any of the video of it? 4 A. No. 90 Okay. Did you see any of the video of it? 90 A. No. 90 Okay. Did you read any of my examination of him? 91 Q. Okay. Do you recall if you read the last part of your examination of him? 91 A. I certainly read the last part of your examination of him? 92 A. I, I, I, I I do not have any additional recollection, no. 93 A. Yes. 94 A. Yes. 95 Q. Okay. But it's your testimony that you had heard that well before you read that deposition transcript?	21		21	
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25 A. I am, yes.		a COUNTELLINEE DAYS AND!	+	ACDODICION CLANDCLIDE:
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1	J. Seery	1	Page 103 J. Seery
2	Q. Okay. And when you read	2	A. Ms. Hendrix and Mr. Klos.
3	Mr. Waterhouse's parts of his transcript,	3	Q. Why Mr. Klos?
4	did it include Ms. Deborah Deitsch-Perez's	4	A. He's my CFO.
5	questions?	5	Q. To your knowledge, did he overhear
6	A. There was a section at the end that	6	Mr. Waterhouse or Mr. Dondero say something
7	it was unclear to me who was asking the	7	to that same effect?
8	question, because I think there was also a	8	A. I don't believe he did, no.
9	another attorney	9	Q. Is it fair to say that other than
10	Q. Okay.	10	Mr. Waterhouse's deposition from a few days
11	A Debra Dandeneau.	11	ago, the universe of what you heard about
12	(Simultaneous speaking.)	12	what Mr. Dondero instructed came from
13	A so I wasn't sure who was who	13	Ms. Hendrix?
14	was asking I didn't know who represented	14	A. I don't think that's fair. I might
15	whom and who was asking the questions.	15	have heard it from Mr. Klos, who heard it
16	Q. Did you ever discuss with	16	from Mr. Hendrix from Ms. Hendrix, I'm
17	Mr. Waterhouse the substance of what	17	sorry.
18	Mr. Dondero told him vis-a-vis not making any	18	Q. Okay.
19	more payments?	19	A. So around this time it was clear
20	A. I don't believe so, no.	20	that the payment wasn't made, the shared
21	Q. Did you ever other than legal	21	services payments had had not been made,
22	counsel, did you ever discuss that with	22	none of the payments from related entities
23	anyone at Highland, to your recollection?	23	had been made, and it was clear Mr. Dondero
24	A. Yes.	24	had directed that no payments be made. And
25	Q. Okay. With whom?	25	even around the negotiations for any kind of
	David 104		D 10F
1	Page 104 J. Seery	1	Page 105 J. Seery
1 2	J. Seery	1 2	
	<del>-</del>		J. Seery have.
2	J. Seery transition, it was very difficult to agree on	2	J. Seery have.
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2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery transition, it was very difficult to agree on any payments because Mr. Dondero had this edict of no payments.  And I just don't recall if it was before January 7, at January 7 or immediately	2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery have. Q. Because, again, you made the determination that the payment hadn't been made, the note says what it says, and it was the fiduciary obligation that you felt to the
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	Page 106		Page 107
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	Q. After you sent your letter of	2	to be marked Exhibit 8. This is your
3	January 7, did you issue any instructions to	3	letter of January 15, 2021.
4	Mr. Waterhouse or anyone else at the debtor	4	(Exhibit 8, Correspondence
5	with respect to anything having to do with	5	Dated January 15, 2021, marked for
6	the NexPoint note or missed payment?	6	identification, as of this date.)
7	A. I don't believe so, no.	7	(Brief off-record discussion.).
8	Q. Are you aware that on or about	8	THE WITNESS: Oh, 7 is to come?
9	January 12, 2021, Mr. Waterhouse and	9	MR. RUKAVINA: Yes, sir.
10	Mr. Dondero had a telephone conversation, at	10	Q. Do you recognize Exhibit 8?
11	least one, regarding the missed payment?	11	A. I do, yes.
12	A. I am aware of that from your	12	Q. Okay. Do you recall authorizing
13	Mr. Waterhouse's deposition. I had no	13	this to be sent under your electronic
14	knowledge of that before the	14	signature?
15	Q. Mr. Waterhouse never talked to you	15	A. Yes.
16	about that prior to you seeing it in his	16	Q. Okay. Do you recall what prompted
17	deposition?	17	you to send Exhibit 8?
18	A. No.	18	A. Yes.
19	Q. Okay. You're aware that on or	19	O. What was it?
20	about January the 14th, 2021, NexPoint did	20	A. I believe the I think it's the
21	make a \$1.4 million and change payment?	21	day before I was on the stand in a court
22	A. Yes, I am.	22	hearing, and I testified that I'd accelerated
23	MR. RUKAVINA: Okay.	23	this note. Mr. Dondero was there.
24	(Brief off-record discussion.)	24	It appears to me that he
25	MR. RUKAVINA: Sir, this is going	25	immediately learned or realized, oh, my gosh,
	rac. Rold Vilvi Bir, clib ib going	23	integrated of realized, on, my goon,
1	Page 108	1	Page 109
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	J. Seery my edict caused the acceleration of note. I	2	J. Seery \$1.4 million payment?
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	my edict caused the acceleration of note. I don't know if he paid attention to the prior demand acceleration and demand note.  So a payment was received on the 14th for \$1.4 million. And under the terms of the note, my understanding of the law, we applied the payment to the balance and reiterated our demand.  Q. When you were just now putting words in Mr. Dondero's mouth, were you speculating as to his mental process or did he say anything like that to you?  A. He wasn't allowed to talk to me and I didn't so I was speculating, but part of it is that I believe the colloquy you had yesterday with Frank had or two days ago, had a reference to Mr. Dondero being in court. I don't remember if that was on an email or if it was in the the colloquy that you had.  Q. But at least as of January the	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	\$1.4 million payment?  A. I I think so, either the 14th or the 13th. I know I recall testifying to the acceleration and that the note the payment had been missed and we had accelerated it.  Q. Do you recall what was that like the Dondero PI do you recall what proceeding that was?  A. I don't I don't recall (Simultaneous speaking.)  A at least two that week, I believe.  Q. Sitting here today, you think it was January 13 or January 14?  A. Yes.  Q. Okay. Did you ask Mr. Waterhouse anything about that \$1.4 million payment before you sent Exhibit 8?  A. No.  Q. Okay. Did you ask anyone else at

	Page 110		Page 111
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	debtor as to anything having to do with why	2	let's just say January 12, whatever day it
3	that \$1.4 million payment had come in?	3	was - conference with Mr. Dondero, correct?
4	A. I did not. I don't well, I	4	A. None.
5	don't recall doing that.	5	Q. And no knowledge of what they may
6	Q. Why didn't you return I'm sorry,	6	have discussed?
7	strike that.	7	A. No.
8	Why didn't the debtor return the	8	Q. Okay. Can you think of a reason
9	payment?	9	why Dondero would have caused that
10	A. Because I would apply it on account	10	\$1.4 million payment to have been made?
11	and reduce the total amount owed and make the	11	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
12	demand again.	12	form of the question.
13	Q. Why wouldn't you have applied it to	13	A. Can I speculate?
14	the amounts owing under the shared services	14	Q. If you're speculating, tell me
15	agreement and payroll reimbursement	15	you're speculating, sure.
16	agreement?	16	A. I I can speculate, yeah.
17	A. I believe because it was on account	17	Q. Speculate.
18	of the note, and the note had already been	18	A. He realized that the note had been
19	accelerated, so any payments are on account	19	accelerated and that he was going to try to
20	of the note.	20	decelerate it.
21	Q. What led you to believe that the	21	You know, one thing sort of
22	payment was on account of the note?	22	interesting that well, maybe there's a
23	A. I don't recall.	23	question on it.
24	Q. So until you read Mr. Waterhouse's	24	MR. RUKAVINA: Let's go off the
25	transcript, you had no knowledge of his -	25	record for a second.
	Page 112	_	Page 113
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	J. Seery (Brief off-record discussion.)	2	J. Seery Exhibit 9, and you're certainly free to read
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1	J. Seery	1	Page 115 J. Seery
2	for itself, but as the CRO/CEO, what was your	2	A. Yeah, I think the termination
3	understanding of what this contract	3	notice had gone out but it had not yet become
4	effectuated as between the debtor and	4	effective.
5	NexPoint?	5	Q. Okay. And we see here what some
6	A. Part of the way the debtor was set	6	of the services that the debtor was
7	up and the way it was run was that the debtor	7	providing. We see it on the top of page 4,
8	would provide certain services to certain of	8	if you want to flip there.
9	the affiliated entities. And those would be,	9	It says, amongst other things,
10	to some degree, embodied in this agreement.	10	finance and accounting, payments,
11	Oftentimes the debtor provided	11	bookkeeping, cash management.
12	services to affiliates without any agreement,	12	Do you see all that, sir?
13	oftentimes they provided additional services	13	A. Yes.
14	that may not have been in the agreement, and	14	Q. Okay. Do you have an understanding
15	that was because they were such closely	15	of what those terms under this agreement
16	related parties.	16	meant?
17	Q. As of December 2020, do you agree	17	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
18	with me as of December 31, 2020, do you	18	form of the question.
19	agree with me that this agreement had not yet	19	A. Yes, I do.
20	been terminated?	20	Q. Okay. Give me your understanding,
21	A. As of December 20?	21	please, sir.
22	Q. I'm sorry.	22	A. The debtor provided back office
23	As of December 31, 2020, do you	23	support for under those terms, for the
24	agree with me that this agreement had not yet	24	affiliated entity and received some form of
25	been terminated?	25	remuneration in exchange for that and other
	Page 116		Page 117
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
1 2	=	1 2	=
l	J. Seery		J. Seery
2	J. Seery services.	2	J. Seery NexPoint's funds?
2	J. Seery services. Q. And when you said affiliated entity, in this instance, are you referring to NexPoint?	2 3	J. Seery NexPoint's funds? A. Correct.
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	services.  Q. And when you said affiliated entity, in this instance, are you referring to NexPoint?  A. Uh-huh. Yes, I am. Q. Okay. When you say back office services, would that have included, as of December 2020, helping NexPoint ensure that NexPoint pays from its own funds its obligations coming due?  A. I I think as part of back office services that's the heading of the section, and so part of it is to assist in preparing payments and calculating what those should be.  Q. So obviously the debtor wasn't responsible for paying NexPoint's obligations, right?  A. That's correct. Q. But the debtor had some level of responsibility to help NexPoint pay its accounts payable on a timely basis, correct?	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	NexPoint's funds?  A. Correct.  Q. And is the same true for NexPoint's loan obligations?  A. I believe so, yes.  Q. So if Mr. Waterhouse testified that it was reasonable for NexPoint, in December 2020, to rely on the debtor to facilitate the December 31 note payment, would you have reason to disagree with that?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.  A. I would, yes.  Q. Okay. And what's your disagreement and your reason for the disagreement?  A. Because the debtor does work to figure out how much payments are, whether they be on notes or whether they be for some other service that the affiliated entity has gotten.  The debtor's accounting team puts together that schedule, and then the debtor

1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	already been told don't make the payment, it	2	payment by NexPoint for Mr. Waterhouse's
3	wouldn't be scheduled.	3	approval?
4	Q. So, to summarize, it's ultimately	4	A. No, I'm not.
5	up to NexPoint to specifically approve or	5	Q. If there is no such email, do you
6	disapprove any potentially scheduled	6	have any explanation or understanding for why
7	payments?	7	there wouldn't be such an email?
8	A. Correct.	8	A. Sure.
9	Q. Okay. And in this instance, what	9	Q. Okay. What is it?
10	you've learned is that Mr. Waterhouse was	10	A. She was told not to make the
11	told by Dondero, don't make the payment?	11	payment.
12	A. Correct.	12	Q. So, consequently, she did not
13	Q. Okay. And that that is the sum	13	include it in any upcoming payment list?
14	of your understanding as to why the	14	A. Correct.
15	December 31 payment wasn't made?	15	Q. And that goes back to what you
16	A. I don't think that's the sum of it.	16	tell told me before, that Waterhouse told
17	There's there's emails that show that	17	her what Dondero told him, right?
18	Ms. Hendrix prepared and requested from	18	A. That's correct.
19	Mr. Waterhouse payment of these amounts	19	Q. Okay. And are you aware that
20	okayed and he approves them. So they they	20	Mr. Waterhouse said testified that that
21	are the amounts that are permitted to be	21	instruction had come sometime in early
22	approved, and they're all to third parties.	22	December of 2020?
23	None of them are to HCMLP.	23	A. I don't recall.
24	Q. Are you aware of any email where	24	This was in the testimony
25	Ms. Hendrix prepared the December 31 note	25	yesterday?
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	Q. From a couple days ago.	2	form of the question.
	g. I I om a coupic days ago.		
3	A Yeah two days ago I'm sorry		
3 4	A. Yeah, two days ago, I'm sorry.	3	A. Absolutely.
4	I don't recall the specific dates	3 4	A. Absolutely. Q. Did they have no such obligation?
4 5	I don't recall the specific dates that he said that.	3 4 5	A. Absolutely. Q. Did they have no such obligation? A. No.
4 5 6	I don't recall the specific dates that he said that.  Q. Well, whatever the whatever the	3 4 5 6	A. Absolutely. Q. Did they have no such obligation? A. No. Q. Is it your understanding that they
4 5 6 7	I don't recall the specific dates that he said that.  Q. Well, whatever the whatever the dates that he testified about were with	3 4 5 6 7	A. Absolutely. Q. Did they have no such obligation? A. No. Q. Is it your understanding that they had no obligation to communicate with
4 5 6 7 8	I don't recall the specific dates that he said that.  Q. Well, whatever the whatever the dates that he testified about were with respect to the Dondero discussion, would you	3 4 5 6 7 8	A. Absolutely. Q. Did they have no such obligation? A. No. Q. Is it your understanding that they had no obligation to communicate with Mr. Dondero and inform him of the
4 5 6 7 8 9	I don't recall the specific dates that he said that.  Q. Well, whatever the whatever the dates that he testified about were with respect to the Dondero discussion, would you have any reason to dispute those dates?	3 4 5 6 7 8	A. Absolutely. Q. Did they have no such obligation? A. No. Q. Is it your understanding that they had no obligation to communicate with Mr. Dondero and inform him of the consequences that would happen if that
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	D 100	1	D 102
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	respect to that promissory note?	2	something that doesn't exist. There's no
3	A. Not specifically with respect to	3	hats. There's one hat for Mr. Dondero. He
4	the promissory note, but generally it was a	4	controls all of the entities other than
5	concern of mine throughout the case.	5	HCMLP.
6	Q. Well, we can can we agree on	6	And his edicts, whether they be
7	this; that when Mr. Dondero gave	7	from prior to our taking over HCMLP as
8	Mr. Waterhouse that instruction,	8	independent directors or with respect to any
9	Mr. Waterhouse should have known that that	9	of the other entities, are final.
10	instruction was not on behalf of Highland	10	Q. Mr. Dondero might not have had two
11	because Mr. Dondero no longer had any	11	hats, but in December of 2020, would you
12	management role with Highland?	12	agree that Mr. Waterhouse wore two hats?
13	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	13	A. Yes, he did.
14	form of the question.	14	O. The CFO of the debtor and the
15	A. I think he should have known that,	15	treasurer of NexPoint?
16	yes.	16	A. That's correct.
17	Q. And can we therefore agree that	17	Q. And both being executive officer
18	Mr. Waterhouse should have known that that	18	positions, correct?
19	instruction from Dondero was coming from	19	A. Correct.
20	NexPoint	20	
1			Q. Pardon me. With, to your
21	MR. MORRIS: Objection	21	understanding, under Delaware law, fiduciary
22	(Simultaneous speaking.)	22	duties to his respective principals, correct?
23	Q Dondero wearing his NexPoint	23	A. I believe these are both Delaware
24	hat?	24	but I'm not positive.
25	A. I I think you're trying to parse	25	Q. Certainly you would have expected
	Page 124		Page 125
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
1 2	J. Seery Mr. Waterhouse to have fiduciary duties, in	1 2	J. Seery December of 2020 with respect to this
	J. Seery		J. Seery
2	J. Seery Mr. Waterhouse to have fiduciary duties, in	2	J. Seery December of 2020 with respect to this
2 3	J. Seery Mr. Waterhouse to have fiduciary duties, in December of 2020, to the debtor?	2 3	J. Seery  December of 2020 with respect to this  promissory note, might have conflicted with
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	J. Seery Mr. Waterhouse to have fiduciary duties, in December of 2020, to the debtor?  A. Yes. Q. Okay. That's the role that I'm asking about, sir.  Mr. Waterhouse simultaneously being the CFO of the debtor, the payee on a large promissory note, and the treasurer of NexPoint, the maker on that same promissory note, did you not perceive there to be any conflict of interest?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.  A. No, no more than I I perceived a concern throughout the case, but no more than there had been at any other time with any of these related entities. Q. Except, sir, that at this time, Mr. Waterhouse had a fiduciary duty to the	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	December of 2020 with respect to this promissory note, might have conflicted with his duties - whatever they were - to  NexPoint?  (Simultaneously speaking.) (Reporter interjection.)  A. I'm sorry.  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.  A. Potentially but not necessarily.  Mr. Waterhouse took direction from the man in control of NexPoint. That man directs his inferiors, which would include the treasurer. So following that direction doesn't cause any conflict with respect to NexPoint.  Q. On the debtor's side, you mentioned before, for example, that that you believed after the payment was made, that your fiduciary duties necessitated the calling of the note, right?  A. I don't know if they necessitated
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	Page 126		Page 127
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	it, correct?	2	on the 31st, and we sent it, or if it was in
3	A. Yes.	3	December. I believe I testified to that
4	Q. Okay. And would you expect	4	before. And the shared service payments
5	Mr. Waterhouse to have had similar duties to	5	hadn't been made, so there may have been some
6	the bankruptcy estate?	6	discussion that Dondero's cut it off.
7	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	7	Q. Well, I I think I asked you
8	form of the question.	8	before about the timing in reference to the
9	A. No, I believe that would be my	9	January 7 letter, when
'			-
10	direction, if I had I would be his	10	
11	superior at HCMLP. If I directed that we	11	Q you said it might have been
12	collect it, we collect it. If I direct that	12	right around there.
13	we don't, then we don't.	13	Am, am I understanding or strike
14	Q. Is it fair to say, from your prior	14	all that.
15	testimony, that at no time prior to January	15	Is it your testimony that maybe you
16	1, 2021 did Mr. Waterhouse, Mr. Klos or	16	learned about the Dondero instruction on or
17	Ms. Hendrix tell you about the Dondero	17	before December 31, 2020?
18	instruction not to make any more payments?	18	MR. MORRIS: Objection, asked and
19	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	19	answered.
20	form of the question.	20	A. That that's correct. I don't
21	A. Prior to when?	21	recall when I learned but, factually, I know
22	Q. January 1, 2021.	22	that the payments on shared services hadn't
23	A. I I don't as I said, I don't	23	been made. I could not have known that the
24	recall if it was right around the time of	24	December 31 payment wouldn't have been made
25	the the payment had been failed to be made	25	on December 31 until after December 31.
1	Page 128 J. Seerv	1	Page 129 J. Seerv
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	J. Seery Q. Well, but you could have learned	2	J. Seery irrespective of when they're due, that could
2 3	J. Seery Q. Well, but you could have learned that Mr. Dondero had instructed that the	2 3	J. Seery irrespective of when they're due, that could have been made in early December. I wouldn't
2 3 4	J. Seery Q. Well, but you could have learned that Mr. Dondero had instructed that the December 31 payment not be made ahead of	2 3 4	J. Seery irrespective of when they're due, that could have been made in early December. I wouldn't have known the effect of it.
2 3 4 5	J. Seery Q. Well, but you could have learned that Mr. Dondero had instructed that the December 31 payment not be made ahead of time, could you not have?	2 3 4 5	J. Seery irrespective of when they're due, that could have been made in early December. I wouldn't have known the effect of it.  I knew the effect with respect to
2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery Q. Well, but you could have learned that Mr. Dondero had instructed that the December 31 payment not be made ahead of time, could you not have? A. I I could have, but I did not	2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery irrespective of when they're due, that could have been made in early December. I wouldn't have known the effect of it.  I knew the effect with respect to the shared service because it wouldn't be
2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery Q. Well, but you could have learned that Mr. Dondero had instructed that the December 31 payment not be made ahead of time, could you not have? A. I I could have, but I did not learn that.	2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery irrespective of when they're due, that could have been made in early December. I wouldn't have known the effect of it.  I knew the effect with respect to the shared service because it wouldn't be paid. He might have changed his mind and I
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery Q. Well, but you could have learned that Mr. Dondero had instructed that the December 31 payment not be made ahead of time, could you not have? A. I I could have, but I did not learn that. Q. Okay. That's that's what I'm	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery irrespective of when they're due, that could have been made in early December. I wouldn't have known the effect of it.  I knew the effect with respect to the shared service because it wouldn't be paid. He might have changed his mind and I didn't know that.
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	Q. Well, but you could have learned that Mr. Dondero had instructed that the December 31 payment not be made ahead of time, could you not have?  A. I I could have, but I did not learn that.  Q. Okay. That's that's what I'm trying that's what I'm trying to ascertain. I'm trying to refresh your memory.  So you can now testify that prior to the payment not being made, you did not know about the Dondero instruction not to make the payment?  A. With respect to the the note payment, that's correct.  Q. Okay. So what that's what I mean.  It would have had to have been January 1 or after January 1, 2021 or after that you learned about that?	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	irrespective of when they're due, that could have been made in early December. I wouldn't have known the effect of it.  I knew the effect with respect to the shared service because it wouldn't be paid. He might have changed his mind and I didn't know that.  Q. Okay. I'm going to I'm going to try again.  On or about January 31, 2020 A. December 31.  Q. Thank you.  On or before December 31, 2020, sitting here today, do you remember being informed of the Dondero instruction not to make payments?  MR. MORRIS: Objection, asked and answered.  A. Again, I don't recall the exact date I learned. I believe I certainly knew that the shared service payments had not been
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	Q. Well, but you could have learned that Mr. Dondero had instructed that the December 31 payment not be made ahead of time, could you not have?  A. I I could have, but I did not learn that.  Q. Okay. That's that's what I'm trying that's what I'm trying to ascertain. I'm trying to refresh your memory.  So you can now testify that prior to the payment not being made, you did not know about the Dondero instruction not to make the payment?  A. With respect to the the note payment, that's correct.  Q. Okay. So what that's what I mean.  It would have had to have been January 1 or after January 1, 2021 or after that you learned about that?  A. I would have to have learned of the	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	irrespective of when they're due, that could have been made in early December. I wouldn't have known the effect of it.  I knew the effect with respect to the shared service because it wouldn't be paid. He might have changed his mind and I didn't know that.  Q. Okay. I'm going to I'm going to try again.  On or about January 31, 2020  A. December 31.  Q. Thank you.  On or before December 31, 2020, sitting here today, do you remember being informed of the Dondero instruction not to make payments?  MR. MORRIS: Objection, asked and answered.  A. Again, I don't recall the exact date I learned. I believe I certainly knew that the shared service payments had not been made. I believe I knew that that related to
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	Q. Well, but you could have learned that Mr. Dondero had instructed that the December 31 payment not be made ahead of time, could you not have?  A. I I could have, but I did not learn that.  Q. Okay. That's that's what I'm trying that's what I'm trying to ascertain. I'm trying to refresh your memory.  So you can now testify that prior to the payment not being made, you did not know about the Dondero instruction not to make the payment?  A. With respect to the the note payment, that's correct.  Q. Okay. So what that's what I mean.  It would have had to have been January 1 or after January 1, 2021 or after that you learned about that?	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	irrespective of when they're due, that could have been made in early December. I wouldn't have known the effect of it.  I knew the effect with respect to the shared service because it wouldn't be paid. He might have changed his mind and I didn't know that.  Q. Okay. I'm going to I'm going to try again.  On or about January 31, 2020 A. December 31.  Q. Thank you.  On or before December 31, 2020, sitting here today, do you remember being informed of the Dondero instruction not to make payments?  MR. MORRIS: Objection, asked and answered.  A. Again, I don't recall the exact date I learned. I believe I certainly knew that the shared service payments had not been

Page 130 Page 131 1 J. Seery 1 J. Seery 2 2 -- where Dondero tells Waterhouse response to my answer. Ο. 3 3 Why, why does -- why is that no more payments, right? 4 relevant? Because from that you deduced that 4 Α. Fair enough. 5 5 all payments were to cease? Ο. So sitting here today, it is 6 No, they were due before. 6 possible that before December 31, 2020, you 7 7 That's -- okay, I apologize. had heard vis-a-vis Ms. Hendrix that NexPoint 0. 8 So this shared services contract 8 would not be making its scheduled payment 9 required periodic payments, right? 9 because of the Dondero edict? 10 Α. Correct. 10 Scheduled payment on the note? 11 Q. And, and -- and are you saying that 11 Ο. On the note. 12 before December 31, 2020, NexPoint had 12 Α. No, I don't think that's fair. 13 already failed to make at least one of those 13 That's all I'm -- okay. So I'm --14 14 periodic payments? I'm asking just about the note. 15 Α. I believe so, yes. 15 As of December 31, 2020, sitting 16 16 here today, do you remember having heard that Okay. Did you, at that point in 17 time, inquire as to why that payment hadn't 17 NexPoint would not be making its December 31 been made? payment because of the Dondero edict? 18 18 19 Α. I don't recall, but I loosely 19 I pretty clearly recall that the 20 recall - but I don't know exactly when I 2.0 payments had not been made, and I had heard learned it - that there had been this edict. that there had been an edict. 21 21 22 Okay. I'll use that word "edict." 22 The full implication of that edict 23 That's the one -- we're both saying the same 23 and whether it extended to the note I did not 24 thing, right --24 know until the payment was missed. 25 25 Understood. I think that -- I Α. Correct. Ο. Page 132 Page 133 1 J. Seery 1 J. Seery 2 think -- thank you. I understand now. 2 Okay. When you say largely, can 3 So you knew that there had been an 3 you think of anyone right now that was no 4 4 longer there or changed? edict not to make payments, you just didn't 5 5 realize definitively that that edict also Not specifically. There were --6 applied to the promissory note payment? 6 there was some attrition during 2020 and we 7 7 A. Correct. didn't specifically replace some of those, 8 Okay. By December 31, 2020, had 8 but some -- some people we did replace. We 9 the debtor laid off certain people, certain 9 actually hired people in 2020. 10 employees, let's just say for cost-cutting 10 But as with respect -- pardon me. 11 purposes as opposed to regular terminations, 11 As it respects -- strike that. 12 you know -- you know what I'm trying to say? 12 With respect only to the payment 13 Had there been just --13 we're talking about, i.e. scheduling future 14 Α. Had there been a RIF? 14 permission to pay them, all those personnel 15 A reduction --15 Q. that would have had a role in -- on that for 16 (Simultaneous speaking.) 16 the debtor were still there in December 2020? 17 I -- I believe that group was 17 Q. Yes, yes. Α. No, there had not been. largely the same. 18 18 19 So to your understanding, the 19 Ο. Waterhouse, Klos and Hendrix? 20 Ellison Rober -- I can't remember 20 debtor personnel that would have had any 21 involvement with these treasury and payment 21 her last name. So there -- there were a 22 services, helping affiliated companies make 22 couple others in that group as well, and then 23 their payments, all those personnel were 23 there were some other junior people that 24 still there? 24 would have assisted them. A. 25 Largely the same. 25 I'm going to ask you a hypothetical

	Page 134		Page 135
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	question. Let's say that on December the	2	A. I certainly
3	10th, 2020, Hendrix tells you that Dondero	3	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
4	has instructed that the note payment by	4	(Simultaneous speaking and
5	NexPoint will not be made.	5	reporter interjection.)
6	Would you have issued any	6	A. I certainly was familiar with the
7	instructions to employees of the debtor	7	agreement and had consulted it numerous
8	following up on that, what you just learned?	8	times.
9	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	9	If your question is did I consult
10	form of the question.	10	this agreement with respect to that demand
11	A. I, I don't know know if	11	letter, the answer's no.
12	knowing what I know now and that they hadn't	12	Q. Okay. If you'll turn to Section
13	made the shared service payments at that time	13	2.06 of this agreement for me, sir.
14	and that it seemed to be going towards	14	And certainly you can look at the
15	litigation, I would not have done anything, I	15	definitions, but the staff and services
16	don't think.	16	provider, that's the debtor, right?
17	Q. Okay. So, again, to round off this	17	A. Yes.
18	topic, you do not believe that employees of	18	Q. And management company, that's
19	the debtor had any obligation, after	19	NexPoint, right?
20	Dondero's edict, to follow up with NexPoint	20	A. Yes.
21	about its upcoming note payment?	21	Q. Okay. So Section 2.06, the last
22	A. No.	22	sentence, sir, that basically says that the
23	Q. Okay. Did you consult this shared	23	debtor will not have any duties or
24	services agreement, to your recollection,	24	obligations to NexPoint unless those duties
25	before your January 7, 2021 letter?	25	and obligations are specifically provided for
	n 126		5 125
1	Page 136 J. Seery	1	Page 137 J. Seery
1 2	<del>-</del>	1 2	=
I	J. Seery in this agreement.		J. Seery
2	J. Seery	2	J. Seery would use in the conduct of an
2 3	J. Seery in this agreement.  Did I paraphrase that correctly?	2 3	J. Seery would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and
2 3 4	J. Seery in this agreement.  Did I paraphrase that correctly?  A. Roughly, yes.	2 3 4	J. Seery would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims.
2 3 4 5	J. Seery in this agreement.  Did I paraphrase that correctly?  A. Roughly, yes.  Q. Okay. And if we flip to Section	2 3 4 5	J. Seery would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims. Did I read that correctly?
2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery in this agreement.  Did I paraphrase that correctly?  A. Roughly, yes.  Q. Okay. And if we flip to Section 6.01, sir, and and take a second, please,	2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims. Did I read that correctly? A. Roughly.
2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery in this agreement.  Did I paraphrase that correctly?  A. Roughly, yes.  Q. Okay. And if we flip to Section 6.01, sir, and and take a second, please, to read that section.	2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims. Did I read that correctly?  A. Roughly. Q. Okay. Do you have any
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery in this agreement.  Did I paraphrase that correctly?  A. Roughly, yes.  Q. Okay. And if we flip to Section 6.01, sir, and and take a second, please, to read that section.  A. (Document review.)	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims. Did I read that correctly? A. Roughly. Q. Okay. Do you have any understanding of that section, sitting here
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery in this agreement.  Did I paraphrase that correctly?  A. Roughly, yes.  Q. Okay. And if we flip to Section 6.01, sir, and and take a second, please, to read that section.  A. (Document review.)  Okay.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims. Did I read that correctly? A. Roughly. Q. Okay. Do you have any understanding of that section, sitting here today?
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	J. Seery in this agreement.  Did I paraphrase that correctly?  A. Roughly, yes.  Q. Okay. And if we flip to Section 6.01, sir, and and take a second, please, to read that section.  A. (Document review.)  Okay.  Q. And and you might want to look	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	J. Seery would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims. Did I read that correctly? A. Roughly. Q. Okay. Do you have any understanding of that section, sitting here today? A. I know what every one of those
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	J. Seery in this agreement.  Did I paraphrase that correctly?  A. Roughly, yes.  Q. Okay. And if we flip to Section 6.01, sir, and and take a second, please, to read that section.  A. (Document review.)  Okay.  Q. And and you might want to look at the definition of covered person real	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	J. Seery would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims. Did I read that correctly? A. Roughly. Q. Okay. Do you have any understanding of that section, sitting here today? A. I know what every one of those words mean.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	J. Seery in this agreement.  Did I paraphrase that correctly?  A. Roughly, yes.  Q. Okay. And if we flip to Section 6.01, sir, and and take a second, please, to read that section.  A. (Document review.)  Okay.  Q. And and you might want to look at the definition of covered person real quick. I believe you'll find it includes the	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	J. Seery would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims. Did I read that correctly? A. Roughly. Q. Okay. Do you have any understanding of that section, sitting here today? A. I know what every one of those words mean. Q. Okay. Reading that, do you still
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	J. Seery in this agreement.  Did I paraphrase that correctly?  A. Roughly, yes.  Q. Okay. And if we flip to Section 6.01, sir, and and take a second, please, to read that section.  A. (Document review.)  Okay.  Q. And and you might want to look at the definition of covered person real quick. I believe you'll find it includes the debtor.  A. Okay.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	J. Seery would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims. Did I read that correctly? A. Roughly. Q. Okay. Do you have any understanding of that section, sitting here today? A. I know what every one of those words mean. Q. Okay. Reading that, do you still believe that Mr. Waterhouse and Mr. Klos and Ms. Hendrix had no duty to go back to
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	J. Seery in this agreement.  Did I paraphrase that correctly?  A. Roughly, yes.  Q. Okay. And if we flip to Section 6.01, sir, and and take a second, please, to read that section.  A. (Document review.)  Okay.  Q. And and you might want to look at the definition of covered person real quick. I believe you'll find it includes the debtor.  A. Okay.  Q. So I read this and, and and it says (as read):	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	J. Seery would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims. Did I read that correctly? A. Roughly. Q. Okay. Do you have any understanding of that section, sitting here today? A. I know what every one of those words mean. Q. Okay. Reading that, do you still believe that Mr. Waterhouse and Mr. Klos and Ms. Hendrix had no duty to go back to Mr. Dondero and advise him of the ramifications of his edict and try to
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	J. Seery in this agreement.  Did I paraphrase that correctly?  A. Roughly, yes.  Q. Okay. And if we flip to Section 6.01, sir, and and take a second, please, to read that section.  A. (Document review.)  Okay.  Q. And and you might want to look at the definition of covered person real quick. I believe you'll find it includes the debtor.  A. Okay.  Q. So I read this and, and and it says (as read):  Except as otherwise	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	J. Seery would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims.  Did I read that correctly?  A. Roughly. Q. Okay. Do you have any understanding of that section, sitting here today?  A. I know what every one of those words mean. Q. Okay. Reading that, do you still believe that Mr. Waterhouse and Mr. Klos and Ms. Hendrix had no duty to go back to Mr. Dondero and advise him of the ramifications of his edict and try to persuade him otherwise?
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	J. Seery in this agreement.  Did I paraphrase that correctly?  A. Roughly, yes.  Q. Okay. And if we flip to Section 6.01, sir, and and take a second, please, to read that section.  A. (Document review.)  Okay.  Q. And and you might want to look at the definition of covered person real quick. I believe you'll find it includes the debtor.  A. Okay.  Q. So I read this and, and and it says (as read):  Except as otherwise expressly provided herein, each	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	J. Seery  would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims.  Did I read that correctly?  A. Roughly.  Q. Okay. Do you have any understanding of that section, sitting here today?  A. I know what every one of those words mean.  Q. Okay. Reading that, do you still believe that Mr. Waterhouse and Mr. Klos and Ms. Hendrix had no duty to go back to Mr. Dondero and advise him of the ramifications of his edict and try to persuade him otherwise?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	J. Seery in this agreement.  Did I paraphrase that correctly?  A. Roughly, yes.  Q. Okay. And if we flip to Section 6.01, sir, and and take a second, please, to read that section.  A. (Document review.)  Okay.  Q. And and you might want to look at the definition of covered person real quick. I believe you'll find it includes the debtor.  A. Okay.  Q. So I read this and, and and it says (as read):  Except as otherwise expressly provided herein, each covered person shall discharge its duties under this agreement with	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	J. Seery  would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims.  Did I read that correctly?  A. Roughly.  Q. Okay. Do you have any understanding of that section, sitting here today?  A. I know what every one of those words mean.  Q. Okay. Reading that, do you still believe that Mr. Waterhouse and Mr. Klos and Ms. Hendrix had no duty to go back to Mr. Dondero and advise him of the ramifications of his edict and try to persuade him otherwise?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. Yes, I do.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	J. Seery in this agreement.  Did I paraphrase that correctly?  A. Roughly, yes.  Q. Okay. And if we flip to Section 6.01, sir, and and take a second, please, to read that section.  A. (Document review.)  Okay.  Q. And and you might want to look at the definition of covered person real quick. I believe you'll find it includes the debtor.  A. Okay.  Q. So I read this and, and and it says (as read):  Except as otherwise expressly provided herein, each covered person shall discharge its duties under this agreement with the care, skill, prudence and	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	J. Seery  would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims.  Did I read that correctly?  A. Roughly.  Q. Okay. Do you have any understanding of that section, sitting here today?  A. I know what every one of those words mean.  Q. Okay. Reading that, do you still believe that Mr. Waterhouse and Mr. Klos and Ms. Hendrix had no duty to go back to Mr. Dondero and advise him of the ramifications of his edict and try to persuade him otherwise?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.  A. Yes, I do. Q. Okay.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	J. Seery in this agreement.  Did I paraphrase that correctly?  A. Roughly, yes.  Q. Okay. And if we flip to Section 6.01, sir, and and take a second, please, to read that section.  A. (Document review.)  Okay.  Q. And and you might want to look at the definition of covered person real quick. I believe you'll find it includes the debtor.  A. Okay.  Q. So I read this and, and and it says (as read):  Except as otherwise expressly provided herein, each covered person shall discharge its duties under this agreement with the care, skill, prudence and diligence under the circumstances	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	J. Seery  would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims.  Did I read that correctly?  A. Roughly.  Q. Okay. Do you have any understanding of that section, sitting here today?  A. I know what every one of those words mean.  Q. Okay. Reading that, do you still believe that Mr. Waterhouse and Mr. Klos and Ms. Hendrix had no duty to go back to Mr. Dondero and advise him of the ramifications of his edict and try to persuade him otherwise?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.  A. Yes, I do.  Q. Okay.  A. I believe that they didn't have any
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	J. Seery in this agreement.  Did I paraphrase that correctly?  A. Roughly, yes.  Q. Okay. And if we flip to Section 6.01, sir, and and take a second, please, to read that section.  A. (Document review.)  Okay.  Q. And and you might want to look at the definition of covered person real quick. I believe you'll find it includes the debtor.  A. Okay.  Q. So I read this and, and and it says (as read):  Except as otherwise expressly provided herein, each covered person shall discharge its duties under this agreement with the care, skill, prudence and diligence under the circumstances then prevailing that a prudent	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	Would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims.  Did I read that correctly?  A. Roughly.  Q. Okay. Do you have any understanding of that section, sitting here today?  A. I know what every one of those words mean.  Q. Okay. Reading that, do you still believe that Mr. Waterhouse and Mr. Klos and Ms. Hendrix had no duty to go back to Mr. Dondero and advise him of the ramifications of his edict and try to persuade him otherwise?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.  A. Yes, I do.  Q. Okay.  A. I believe that they didn't have any further duty.

	Page 138		Page 139
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	would you expect your officers to come to you	2	to you, after you issue an instruction and if
3	and say, Mr. Seery, just so you know, there's	3	they believe it's bad for the company, to
4	going to be consequences, please reconsider?	4	dissuade you of that instruction?
5	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	5	A. I, I
6	A. Me personally?	6	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
7	Q. Yes.	7	form of the question.
8	MR. MORRIS: form of the	8	A. I would prefer that they did, yes.
9	question.	9	Q. Okay. NexPoint was paying the
10	(Simultaneous speaking and	10	debtor's employees in this including
11	reporter interjection.)	11	Mr. Waterhouse, Mr. Klos and Ms. Hendrix, for
12	A. My relationship with people who	12	services under this contract, correct?
13	work with or for me is very different than I	13	A. Correct.
14	understand Mr. Dondero's. But as a	14	Q. And other than amounts in
15	professional and someone who's been doing	15	controversy that are not insignificant,
16	this for thirty years, if I give my	16	NexPoint paid millions of dollars to the
17	direction, I expect it to be followed. And I	17	debtor under this contract, did it not?
18	know, from what I have heard and seen,	18	A. I don't believe it paid millions
19	Mr. Dondero is that to the nth degree.	19	Q. Okay.
20	Q. So, again, I understand that you	20	A of dollars.
21	expect your instructions, Mr. Seery's	21	MR. MORRIS: Yeah, objection.
22	instructions, to be followed.	22	Q. Okay. But it paid it paid some
23	A. Yes.	23	amount under this contract?
24	Q. But from your officers, do you	24	A. I would say for the services, one
25	believe that they have an obligation to come	25	would easily say a paltry amount. And the
1	Page 140	1	Page 141
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	J. Seery vehicle, NPA, was used largely to strip	2	J. Seery losses, that one would have some
2 3	J. Seery vehicle, NPA, was used largely to strip assets and value out of Highland.	2 3	J. Seery losses, that one would have some understanding of what those ramifications
2 3 4	J. Seery vehicle, NPA, was used largely to strip assets and value out of Highland. Q. But the same Mr. Waterhouse that	2 3 4	J. Seery losses, that one would have some understanding of what those ramifications might be, and maybe Mr. Waterhouse didn't. I
2 3 4 5	J. Seery vehicle, NPA, was used largely to strip assets and value out of Highland. Q. But the same Mr. Waterhouse that has a duty to you, as the chief executive	2 3 4 5	J. Seery losses, that one would have some understanding of what those ramifications might be, and maybe Mr. Waterhouse didn't. I don't know; I wasn't there.
2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery vehicle, NPA, was used largely to strip assets and value out of Highland. Q. But the same Mr. Waterhouse that has a duty to you, as the chief executive officer, to tell you that one of your courses	2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery losses, that one would have some understanding of what those ramifications might be, and maybe Mr. Waterhouse didn't. I don't know; I wasn't there. Q. Do you agree, sir, that Section 601
2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery vehicle, NPA, was used largely to strip assets and value out of Highland. Q. But the same Mr. Waterhouse that has a duty to you, as the chief executive officer, to tell you that one of your courses of action is going to be detrimental has no	2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery losses, that one would have some understanding of what those ramifications might be, and maybe Mr. Waterhouse didn't. I don't know; I wasn't there. Q. Do you agree, sir, that Section 601 also applied to you with respect to as a
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery vehicle, NPA, was used largely to strip assets and value out of Highland. Q. But the same Mr. Waterhouse that has a duty to you, as the chief executive officer, to tell you that one of your courses of action is going to be detrimental has no such duty to Mr. Dondero, because	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery losses, that one would have some understanding of what those ramifications might be, and maybe Mr. Waterhouse didn't. I don't know; I wasn't there. Q. Do you agree, sir, that Section 601 also applied to you with respect to as a covered person, with respect to how you
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery vehicle, NPA, was used largely to strip assets and value out of Highland. Q. But the same Mr. Waterhouse that has a duty to you, as the chief executive officer, to tell you that one of your courses of action is going to be detrimental has no such duty to Mr. Dondero, because Mr. Dondero's a tyrant?	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery losses, that one would have some understanding of what those ramifications might be, and maybe Mr. Waterhouse didn't. I don't know; I wasn't there. Q. Do you agree, sir, that Section 601 also applied to you with respect to as a covered person, with respect to how you conducted business under this contract?
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	J. Seery  vehicle, NPA, was used largely to strip assets and value out of Highland.  Q. But the same Mr. Waterhouse that has a duty to you, as the chief executive officer, to tell you that one of your courses of action is going to be detrimental has no such duty to Mr. Dondero, because Mr. Dondero's a tyrant?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	J. Seery losses, that one would have some understanding of what those ramifications might be, and maybe Mr. Waterhouse didn't. I don't know; I wasn't there. Q. Do you agree, sir, that Section 601 also applied to you with respect to as a covered person, with respect to how you conducted business under this contract? Do you
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	vehicle, NPA, was used largely to strip assets and value out of Highland.  Q. But the same Mr. Waterhouse that has a duty to you, as the chief executive officer, to tell you that one of your courses of action is going to be detrimental has no such duty to Mr. Dondero, because Mr. Dondero's a tyrant?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. I said I would prefer that a	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	J. Seery losses, that one would have some understanding of what those ramifications might be, and maybe Mr. Waterhouse didn't. I don't know; I wasn't there. Q. Do you agree, sir, that Section 601 also applied to you with respect to as a covered person, with respect to how you conducted business under this contract? Do you A. Could I no, I think it well, I can
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	vehicle, NPA, was used largely to strip assets and value out of Highland.  Q. But the same Mr. Waterhouse that has a duty to you, as the chief executive officer, to tell you that one of your courses of action is going to be detrimental has no such duty to Mr. Dondero, because Mr. Dondero's a tyrant?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.  A. I said I would prefer that a Mr. Waterhouse or anyone else who works for or with me advise me if they think the course of action I'm taking is incorrect. If I listen to their advice and make my decision, then we live with my decision. I don't want to revisit it ten times.  So I don't know whether Mr. Waterhouse told Mr. Dondero that that course might have ramifications. One would think that a man who's run these businesses for this long and had put this company into	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	J. Seery losses, that one would have some understanding of what those ramifications might be, and maybe Mr. Waterhouse didn't. I don't know; I wasn't there. Q. Do you agree, sir, that Section 601 also applied to you with respect to as a covered person, with respect to how you conducted business under this contract? Do you A. Could I no, I think it well, I can Q. Take a second take a second to read the definition of covered person. A. Uh-huh. Q. And, look, we can agree that you're not making any legal conclusions here. I'm just A. (Document review.) I believe it does, yes. Q. Yet before you sent your January 7 letter, you did not check to see whether NexPoint had made any prepayments on the

1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	check, but our my understanding, based	2	other provision.
3	upon the work of the accounting group, was	3	Q. Do you believe that Section 601
4	that the payment was due and scheduled. It	4	played any role at all, now that you're
5	had to be paid.	5	reading it, with respect to your decision to
6	If it had not been due, it had been	6	call the note as opposed to call NexPoint and
7	prepaid, it would not have been scheduled.	7	say, hey, what happened?
8	So there was no need for me to go doublecheck	8	A. I don't I don't believe it
9	that.	9	governs it at all.
10	Q. And you did not separately inquire	10	Q. Do you believe it governed in any
11	of anyone at the debtor as to whether	11	respect whatever Mr. Waterhouse and
12	NexPoint had a defense to your January 7	12	Mr. Dondero discussed on or about January
13	letter, correct?	13	January 12, 2021?
14	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	14	A. I don't know the substance of their
15	form of the question.	15	discussion, other than that the what we've
16	A. No, I did not.	16	referred to as the edict, at least that's as
17	Q. Is that not, sir, something that	17	it's been reported. So I don't know what
18	would have been prudent to do pursuant to	18	colloquy they had with respect to
19	Section 601, check as to whether NexPoint had	19	ramifications of making a payment or not.
20	made a prepayment or had a defense?	20	Clearly, there should have been
21	MR. MORRIS: Objection	21	more ramifications for not making the shared
22	A. I	22	services payments, but Mr. Dondero issued a
23	(Simultaneous speaking.)	23	similar edict or
24	A I don't believe that's something	24	(Simultaneous speaking.)
25	that would have been required by this or any	25	Q. Mr. Dondero didn't issue a similar
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1	Page 144 J. Seerv	1	Page 145 J. Spery
1 2	J. Seery	1 2	J. Seery
2	J. Seery edict?	2	J. Seery account when you executed and issued your
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	edict?  A. I said he did.  Q. He did.  So why didn't you terminate the services agreement immediately upon  NexPoint's failure to pay?  A. Well, we would have, I think, if we thought we could. We also had an issue that both NexPoint and HCMFA were providing services to retail funds and had no ability to provide any of those services without  Highland. They literally had left themselves completely exposed, while just stripping out fees.  Q. Do you believe with respect to Section 601, standard of care, that the parties prior course of dealing, i.e. rolling	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	J. Seery account when you executed and issued your January 27, 2021 letter?  A. Certainly. The payments are typically made on time, and if they're not paid, then it's prudent and required to accelerate the note.  Q. But five times before, you you knew by then that five times before, demand notes were rolled up into a term note, which you said before, I believe, was for an improper purpose?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form A. At least three of them that are sub subject to the current litigation. I
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1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	borrower, and your affiliate entity misses a	2	Q. And what was your view?
3	scheduled payment, you believe that you have	3	A. I don't think certainly by that
4	no obligation to do anything before you	4	time, if there ever had been, I don't think
5	called the note immediately due?	5	by that time there were any fiduciary duties
6	A. That that's absolutely correct.	6	owed.
7	MR. RUKAVINA: Okay. Do you mind	7	Q. Okay. Real quick, we're still on
8	if we take another restroom break?	8	this shared services agreement, sir, page 4.
9	MR. MORRIS: Sure.	9	This is a list of services to be provided.
10	MR. RUKAVINA: I'm getting	10	I'm just you can read it in detail, but I
11	near near the end. Five minutes,	11	just have a very simple question. 4B talks
12	please.	12	about legal compliance risk analysis.
13	(Brief off-record discussion.)	13	In December of 2020, was the debtor
14	VIDEO TECHNICIAN: The time is	14	providing legal services to NexPoint?
15	4:16. We're off the record.	15	A. I don't believe so, or at least not
16	(Recess taken.)	16	any there might have been some assistance.
17	VIDEO TECHNICIAN: The time is	17	I'm trying to think what would have been done
18	4:21. We're back on the record.	18	at that time in terms of support, but there
19	BY MR. RUKAVINA:	19	certainly compliance was probably
20	Q. Did you have a view, as of December	20	transferred pretty fully by then.
21	2020 or January 2021, as to whether the	21	I don't think NexPoint was involved
22	debtor owed any fiduciary duties to NexPoint?	22	in any litigation at that point, certainly
23	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	23	not that the debtor was supporting, so I I
24	form of the question.	24	don't think very much, if anything.
25	A. I I believe I did.	25	Q. Okay. Do you know whether NexPoint
	Page 148		Page 149
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	J. Seery had written policies and procedures in place	2	J. Seery was asking Ms asking Ms. Hendrix for the
2 3	J. Seery had written policies and procedures in place with respect to how it conducted its		J. Seery was asking Ms asking Ms. Hendrix for the total principal on this note on January 12,
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	Page 150		Page 151
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	going to be Exhibit 11, sir.	2	there was a court hearing.
3	(Exhibit 11, Email Chain	3	Do you remember what that court
4	D-NNL-028514 - D-NNL-028515, marked	4	hearing might have been?
5	for identification, as of this date.)	5	A. I I don't.
6	Q. So, Mr. Seery, this you're not	6	Q. Okay. Do you have any recollection
7	on this email chain, but this email begins on	7	as to why you would have been asking about
8	December 10, 2020, from Ms. Hendrix to	8	the original maturity date of the NPA loan
9	Mr. Romey I'm sorry, from Mr. Romey to	9	before it was restructured?
10	Ms. Hendrix, where he writes (as read):	10	A. I think it's a mistake, that there
11	Can you tell me the original	11	were there were five notes
12	maturity date for the NPA loan	12	Q. Okay.
13	before it was restructured? Sorry	13	A that were rolled into this one.
14	for the hustle. Seery is asking	14	I may have just been checking
15	for this ASAP for today's court	15	whether they were all demand or if any of
16	hearing.	16	them have had a maturity. I don't I don't
17	Do you see that, sir?	17	know why I would have been asking for it. I
18	A. I do see it.	18	don't recall what the hearing was about.
19	Q. Do you recall asking Mr. Romey	19	Q. Fair enough. You testified before
20	anything about that loan or anything about	20	that and I'm not trying to put words in
21	this on or about January December 10,	21	your mouth, sir.
22	2020?	22	You testified before that there was
23	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	23	something maybe inappropriate or shady about
24	A. Not specifically.	24	the roll-up of the five notes into the one
25	Q. Okay. It says that you were	25	NexPoint note.
	Page 152		Page 153
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	Whatever whatever words you	2	Q. Mr. Surgent?
3	used, was that your speculation as to why it	3	A. I don't recall specifically. He
4	happened, was that your logical deduction, or	4	wouldn't, he wouldn't have it would either
5	did someone tell you that that's why the	5	have been Frank Waterhouse or someone else in
6	notes were rolled up?	6	accounting; was anything paid? And
7	MR. MORRIS: Objection	7	because there were a number of notes that
8	(Simultaneous speaking.)	8	were rolled up in a similar fashion, and it
9	A logical deduction.	9	all happened around the same thing; a number
10	(Reporter clarification.)	10	of things were happening to the debtor at
11	BY MR. RUKAVINA:	11	that time.
12	Q. Excluding lawyers, sir, and	12	Q. Why did the debtor or the
117	excluding now in litigation, that back	13	reorganized debtor not retain Mr. Waterhouse
13			
14	when when the debtor existed and you were	14	after the termination of the shared services
14 15	when when the debtor existed and you were the CEO/CRO, did you ask anyone at the debtor	15	agreements?
14 15 16	when when the debtor existed and you were the CEO/CRO, did you ask anyone at the debtor or did you ask Mr. Dondero why those notes	15 16	agreements?  A. I didn't need him.
14 15 16 17	when when the debtor existed and you were the CEO/CRO, did you ask anyone at the debtor or did you ask Mr. Dondero why those notes had been rolled up into the \$30.7 million	15 16 17	agreements?  A. I didn't need him.  Q. Okay. Mr. Klos was promoted to
14 15 16 17 18	when when the debtor existed and you were the CEO/CRO, did you ask anyone at the debtor or did you ask Mr. Dondero why those notes had been rolled up into the \$30.7 million note?	15 16 17 18	agreements?  A. I didn't need him.  Q. Okay. Mr. Klos was promoted to CFO?
14 15 16 17 18 19	when when the debtor existed and you were the CEO/CRO, did you ask anyone at the debtor or did you ask Mr. Dondero why those notes had been rolled up into the \$30.7 million note?  A. I don't believe I asked	15 16 17 18 19	agreements?  A. I didn't need him.  Q. Okay. Mr. Klos was promoted to  CFO?  A. Correct.
14 15 16 17 18 19 20	when when the debtor existed and you were the CEO/CRO, did you ask anyone at the debtor or did you ask Mr. Dondero why those notes had been rolled up into the \$30.7 million note?  A. I don't believe I asked Mr. Dondero.	15 16 17 18 19 20	agreements?  A. I didn't need him. Q. Okay. Mr. Klos was promoted to  CFO?  A. Correct. Q. Okay. Did you have any personal
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	when when the debtor existed and you were the CEO/CRO, did you ask anyone at the debtor or did you ask Mr. Dondero why those notes had been rolled up into the \$30.7 million note?  A. I don't believe I asked Mr. Dondero.  I know I inquired as to whether the	15 16 17 18 19 20 21	agreements?  A. I didn't need him. Q. Okay. Mr. Klos was promoted to  CFO?  A. Correct. Q. Okay. Did you have any personal dislike of Mr. Waterhouse ever?
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	when when the debtor existed and you were the CEO/CRO, did you ask anyone at the debtor or did you ask Mr. Dondero why those notes had been rolled up into the \$30.7 million note?  A. I don't believe I asked Mr. Dondero.  I know I inquired as to whether the debtor got anything for the extension of the	15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	agreements?  A. I didn't need him.  Q. Okay. Mr. Klos was promoted to  CFO?  A. Correct.  Q. Okay. Did you have any personal dislike of Mr. Waterhouse ever?  A. No.
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	when when the debtor existed and you were the CEO/CRO, did you ask anyone at the debtor or did you ask Mr. Dondero why those notes had been rolled up into the \$30.7 million note?  A. I don't believe I asked Mr. Dondero.  I know I inquired as to whether the debtor got anything for the extension of the maturity.	15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	A. I didn't need him. Q. Okay. Mr. Klos was promoted to CFO? A. Correct. Q. Okay. Did you have any personal dislike of Mr. Waterhouse ever? A. No. Q. Did you have any personal views
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	when when the debtor existed and you were the CEO/CRO, did you ask anyone at the debtor or did you ask Mr. Dondero why those notes had been rolled up into the \$30.7 million note?  A. I don't believe I asked Mr. Dondero.  I know I inquired as to whether the debtor got anything for the extension of the	15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	agreements?  A. I didn't need him.  Q. Okay. Mr. Klos was promoted to  CFO?  A. Correct.  Q. Okay. Did you have any personal dislike of Mr. Waterhouse ever?  A. No.

	Page 154		Page 155
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	MR. MORRIS: Objection	2	So I I know way more now, so
3	Q not up to what you expected them	3	it's hard to separate those things. But with
4	to be?	4	respect to Mr. Waterhouse, I think he was
5	A. No, I just preferred, for what we	5	he was adequate. I think the team was very
6	were doing, Mr. Klos.	6	good. And I think that the I was always
7		7	_
	Q. Did you ever form the opinion that		concerned about loyalties.
8	Mr. Waterhouse was I don't know what word	8	Q. Did you ever, when you were the
9	to use Mr. Dondero's stooge or tentacle?	9	CRO, discipline, censure, caution
10	A. No.	10	Mr. Waterhouse about anything?
11	Q. Okay. Did you have any opinion as	11	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
12	to whether he was again, I don't know what	12	form of the question.
13	word to use whether he was a responsible,	13	A. I actually gave him a raise on his
14	proper CFO when he was the CFO of Highland	14	base salary because he couldn't get bonuses
15	and you were the CRO?	15	because of the Court order structure. I did
16	A. While he was CFO, I I think he	16	caution him and many employees about
17	was adequate, but I think the challenge that	17	loyalties and their duties to the debtor.
18	the employees had at Highland was the pull	18	Q. And you remember cautioning him
19	that Dondero had, the go-betweens that he	19	specifically about that or as part of larger
20	had.	20	group?
21	And it's hard to say at a specif <mark>ic</mark>	21	A. As part I I believe it was
22	time, because I know a lot more now,	22	part of the larger group. I certainly did it
23	including to do with payments, including tens	23	with both legal and accounting, particularly
24	of millions of dollars offshore, with respect	24	after Judge Jernigan's expressed
l			
25	to Ellington.	25	expression of concern in in and around
	Page 156		Page 157
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
1 2		1 2	=
l	J. Seery		J. Seery
2	J. Seery July of 2020.	2	J. Seery material decisions had to go through me.
2	J. Seery July of 2020. Q. After you learned about the	2	J. Seery material decisions had to go through me. Q. And you told that to
2 3 4	J. Seery July of 2020. Q. After you learned about the NexPoint missed December 31, 2020 payment,	2 3 4	J. Seery material decisions had to go through me. Q. And you told that to Mr. Waterhouse?
2 3 4 5	J. Seery  July of 2020.  Q. After you learned about the  NexPoint missed December 31, 2020 payment, did you give any instructions to	2 3 4 5	J. Seery material decisions had to go through me. Q. And you told that to Mr. Waterhouse? A. The whole accounting team as well as the legal team.
2 3 4 5	J. Seery  July of 2020.  Q. After you learned about the  NexPoint missed December 31, 2020 payment,  did you give any instructions to  Mr. Waterhouse or anyone else to the effect  of don't negotiate any settlement or cure or	2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery material decisions had to go through me. Q. And you told that to Mr. Waterhouse? A. The whole accounting team as well as the legal team. Q. Do you recall if that's in writing
2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery  July of 2020. Q. After you learned about the  NexPoint missed December 31, 2020 payment, did you give any instructions to  Mr. Waterhouse or anyone else to the effect	2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery material decisions had to go through me. Q. And you told that to Mr. Waterhouse? A. The whole accounting team as well as the legal team.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery  July of 2020.  Q. After you learned about the  NexPoint missed December 31, 2020 payment, did you give any instructions to  Mr. Waterhouse or anyone else to the effect of don't negotiate any settlement or cure or anything on that default without talking to me first?	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery material decisions had to go through me. Q. And you told that to Mr. Waterhouse? A. The whole accounting team as well as the legal team. Q. Do you recall if that's in writing anywhere? A. I don't think so.
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	Page 158		Page 159
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	beyond obvious to Mr. Dondero?	2	to make up a new story?
3	A. Yes, I do, well	3	Q. Well, sir, I object to you saying
4	Q. Why	4	I'm going to make anything up. I'll let
5	A beyond well beyond obvious.	5	Mr. Waterhouse and Mr. Dondero testify as
6	Q. Why is that?	6	they did.
7	A. Because the shared services had	7	But certainly you would you
8	already been terminated. We were heading	8	would not be aware of any deal that Frank or
9	towards a confirmation of a monetization	9	James Dondero might have made, right?
10	plan. He had already failed to pay shared	10	A. I I would not be aware of any
11	service amounts. He had already been found	11	such deal.
12	in contempt of court.	12	Q. Certainly you would have never,
13	The idea that he could cut a deal	13	ahead of time or after the fact, authorized
14	with a former employee over material asset of	14	any such deal?
15	the debtor is nonsensical.	15	A. No, I would not.
16	Q. Okay. Mr. Waterhouse wasn't a	16	Q. Okay. Why not? Why not accept a
17	former employee on January 12, 2021, was he?	17	cure and reinstate the note?
18	A. No, he was not, correct.	18	A. Because the full amount of the note
19	Q. And although the notice of	19	was due. We're in a monetization plan. This
20	termination had gone out for the shared	20	is an opportunity to monetize an asset.
21	services agreement, it had not been	21	MR. RUKAVINA: Just a moment,
22	terminated as of January 12, 2021, correct?	22	please.
23	A. That's correct.	23	THE WITNESS: Sure.
24	Are you are you implying that	24	MR. RUKAVINA: It's 4:30 local,
25	that there was such a deal and you're going	25	right?
<u> </u>			
1	Page 160		Page 161
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
1 2		1 2	
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2 3 4	J. Seery Mr. Seery, allow me just five minutes to consult with my co-counsel. I believe that I'm done, but before I make	2	J. Seery background, you mentioned that you had been involved in hundreds of bankruptcies. Could you tell us, just by listing
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2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery Mr. Seery, allow me just five minutes to consult with my co-counsel. I believe that I'm done, but before I make that decision, I just want to have a few minutes.  THE WITNESS: Certainly.	2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery background, you mentioned that you had been involved in hundreds of bankruptcies. Could you tell us, just by listing them, the the most substantial companies that you were involved with bankruptcies for? A. United Airlines, TWA, Columbia Gas,
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	D 160		P 162
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	category. Madoff would fall into that	2	compensation for the CEOs
3	category.	3	A. I, I
4	Q. Any others?	4	(Simultaneous speaking.)
5	A. There may be. Off the top of my	5	A no, I wouldn't be able to tell
6	head, I don't recall.	6	you that.
7	O. Okay. And in the course of those	7	Q. Even a ballpark you couldn't
8	engagements, were you generally aware of the	8	couldn't say?
9	top-level executive compensation for the	9	A. They're all different kinds of
10	top-level executives prior to the the	10	companies.
11	bankruptcies?	11	Q. I understand, but can you for
12	A. Not specifically. It just depends	12	any of those companies, can you give me a
13	on each each company.	13	ballpark of what the compensation was?
14		14	A. It could be anywhere in any
15	Q. Generally, were you were you aware? Is that the kind of thing you took	15	particular year from zero to \$25 million.
16	note of?	16	- '
17	A. Not it I was more concerned	17	Q. Okay. And is there a general pattern that founder CEOs have higher
		18	
18	with the particular issue that I was dealing	_	compensation than hired-off-the-street CEOs?
19	with as opposed to whether somebody what	19	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
20	somebody made.	20	form of the question.
21	Q. In the bankruptcies that you were	21	A. No, there's not. In fact, it could
22	involved with, with the with the larger	22	sometimes go the other way.
23	companies and all of the financial services	23	Q. But but is it sometimes the
24	or financial advisory companies, can you	24	case, in your experience, that founder CEO
25	can you tell me generally the range of	25	compensation is on the high end?
,	Page 164	_	Page 165
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	J. Seery MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	2	J. Seery up being worth I think the number is I
2	J. Seery  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  form of the question.	2 3	J. Seery up being worth I think the number is I think it's zero.
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	Page 166		Page 167
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	Q. And and not even in a general	2	combination of types of businesses. It's
3	way, other than zero to 25 million?	3	basically, in the last five years, at best a
4	A. That's a pretty good range.	4	melting ice cube. It receives certain
5	Q. Okay. Do you have an understanding	5	management fees and then it gives away
6	of what the typical compensation is for a	6	services at below cost.
7	financial advisory CEO is for a company that	7	So Highland was run at a loss.
8	has a billion or more under management?	8	Typically people who run businesses that
9	A. It depends on the type of assets	9	operate at an operating loss don't get paid a
10	that are under management, it tends it	10	lot of money.
11	depends on the performance of the assets and	11	Q. Let me let me ask you, you're
12	it depends on the cost structure of the	12	now you've been the CEO of Highland for a
13	business.	13	while, right?
14	Q. And taking those things into	14	A. That's correct.
15	account, can you describe for us what the	15	Q. And you're going to remain the CEO
16	compensation for a CEO of a financial advisor	16	for a while longer?
17	firm is, where there are assets under	17	A. Perhaps.
18	management of a billion or more?	18	Q. And do you have an expectation of
19	A. When you [mean] a financial	19	how many years in total you'll likely be the
20	advisor, do you mean an FA type firm or do	20	CEO of Highland?
21	you financial advisor, or do you mean	21	A. The less the better.
22	somebody who advises investors?	22	Q. But aside from that, do you have an
23	Q. I I'm talking about a company	23	expectation of how many years you will likely
24	similar to Highland.	24	be the CEO of Highland?
25	A. So high Highland is a is a	25	A. I don't. I hope we complete the
1	J. Seerv	1	J. Seerv
1 2	J. Seery	1 2	J. Seery
2	J. Seery monetization by 2022. Whether I'm the CEO or	2	J. Seery based on the returns that we get for the
2 3	J. Seery		J. Seery based on the returns that we get for the investors.
2 3 4	J. Seery monetization by 2022. Whether I'm the CEO or not that will depend on the oversight board and whether I want to continue to do it.	2 3 4	J. Seery based on the returns that we get for the investors. Q. So based on, if you were as as
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	monetization by 2022. Whether I'm the CEO or not that will depend on the oversight board and whether I want to continue to do it.  Q. Okay. And if you are as as successful as you hope to be, whatever that is, how much do you expect to make as the CEO of Highland on average for each year that you will have been the CEO of Highland?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.  A. I I don't have a particular expectation right now. I have to negotiate that, but I would expect to make a few million dollars a year.  Q. Have you not negotiated your potential contingent compensation yet?  A. I have not.  Q. What what do you intend to ask for?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.  A. I'd like to get a significant	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	based on the returns that we get for the investors.  Q. So based on, if you were as as successful as you hope to be, what do you think that number would be on an annual basis?  (Simultaneous speaking and reporter interjection.)  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.  A. I would expect it to be at least a few million dollars a year. If I was as successful as I think we will be, it should be significantly more than that.  Q. Okay. And so what does what is because I don't know you very well,  Mr. Seery.  To you, what is significantly more than a few million a year?  A. Just to be clear, you don't know me at all. We've never met, so we'll we'll make sure that that's clear so we don't

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                                                                                                      Page 171
 1
                      J. Seery
                                                        1
                                                                             J. Seery
                                                        2
 2
     in any matter, in any connection whatsoever
                                                                             So what is significantly
                                                                Q.
                                                                      Okay.
 3
     other than this one.
                                                        3
                                                            more than 3 to 4 million?
 4
                                                                      Is that twenty?
               Now, your question was?
                                                        4
 5
                                                        5
                                                                      That would be --
               MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Can you read
                                                                Α.
 6
         it back?
                                                        6
                                                                      MR. MORRIS: Objection --
                                                        7
7
               (As read by the reporter):
                                                                       (Simultaneous speaking and
 8
               "OUESTION: And so what does --
                                                        8
                                                                reporter interjection.)
9
         what is -- because I don't know you
                                                        9
                                                                      Twenty is significantly more than a
10
         very well, Mr. Seery. To you, what is
                                                       10
                                                            few, but it's -- it's not any -- there's no
11
         significantly more than a few million a
                                                       11
                                                            prospect of $20 million of a bonus in this
12
         year?"
                                                       12
                                                            type of arrangement. There's simply not
13
                                                       13
         Α.
               It will depend on -- on the cost.
                                                            enough assets here.
                                                       14
14
     It depends on the overall performance, and --
                                                                      Okay. So when you say
15
     and that will dictate whether there's upside
                                                       15
                                                            significantly more than a few, do you mean
16
     to a performance bonus.
                                                       16
                                                            something like ten, 10 million a year?
17
               Is significantly -- let -- let's
                                                       17
                                                                      MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
                                                       18
18
    break this down to little pieces.
                                                                form of the question.
               A few million, is that two, three,
                                                                      Again, I -- I don't have a specific
19
                                                       19
20
     four, five? What is a few million?
                                                       20
                                                            number in mind. I think that's -- that
               Typically I think of two as a
                                                            there's no chance of that either.
21
                                                       21
22
     couple, three as a few.
                                                       22
                                                                      So can you tell me what you mean by
23
         Ο.
               Okay. Is four also a few?
                                                       23
                                                            significantly more than a few million?
24
               Four is a little more than a few,
                                                       24
                                                                      Five is significantly more than
         Α.
    but it could be in that neighborhood.
                                                       25
25
                                                            three.
                                               Page 172
                                                                                                      Page 173
1
                        J. Seery
                                                        1
                                                                             J. Seery
 2
                 Okay. Does that mean you're hoping
                                                        2
                                                            recall. I've certainly seen loans be given
 3
       for compensation of 8 million a year or
                                                        3
                                                            as part of compensation.
 4
       5 million a year, just so I understand you?
                                                        4
                                                                      Typically senior executives, in my
                 MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
 5
                                                        5
                                                            experience, don't get loans because loans
 6
           form of the question. Come on.
                                                        6
                                                            either have to be paid back or structured in
7
                                                        7
                 There's no chance of $8 million a
                                                            an odd way.
8
       year here. There's not enough assets.
                                                        8
                                                                      If they're structured just to avoid
9
       There's not enough value in the estate to pay
                                                        9
                                                            taxes, most legitimate companies don't want
10
       anybody that amount, which is why Highland
                                                            to do that, so most companies will either pay
                                                       10
       would never pay anybody that amount anyway,
                                                            somebody a -- a base salary and deferred
11
                                                       11
12
       because when you have a melting ice cube and
                                                       12
                                                            amounts or will pay them with stock.
13
       you don't get any performance fees because
                                                       13
                                                                Q.
                                                                      But you have seen loans given as
14
       your performance is terrible, you don't pay
                                                       14
                                                            part of compensation?
15
                                                       15
                                                                      I -- I don't think I've seen it. I
       somebody that much money.
16
    MO*
                 MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Move to
                                                       16
                                                            know that it exists. I -- I don't recall any
                                                       17
                                                            senior executives in any companies that I've
17
           strike.
                 In your experience with the various
                                                            worked around where a loan to a senior
18
                                                       18
19
       companies you've mentioned, have you seen
                                                       19
                                                            executive was a -- was a material issue in a
20
                                                       20
       executives given loans as part of their
                                                            case.
21
       executive compensation?
                                                       21
                                                                      Have you also seen circumstances
22
                                                       22
                                                            where executives or just high-level employees
                 You know, I don't --
23
                 MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
                                                       23
                                                            are given loans that are eventually forgiven
24
           form of the question.
                                                       24
                                                            as part of their compensation?
25
                 I don't know. I don't -- I don't
                                                       25
                                                                      I -- I know it exists. Again, I
```

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                                                                                                      Page 175
 1
                      J. Seery
                                                        1
                                                                             J. Seery
    don't think it's been something or -- or
                                                        2
 2
                                                            potential to be forgiven?
 3
     characteristic in any case either that I've
                                                        3
                                                                      MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
    been involved with, invested in, worked on.
 4
                                                        4
                                                                form of the question.
 5
                                                        5
               Given the nature of your work in
                                                                      Yeah, again, I don't -- I don't --
 6
    bankruptcies, does that simply mean that the
                                                        6
                                                            I don't think there's a program involved in
7
     issue of loans and the forgiveness of the
                                                        7
                                                            this situation, and I don't think there's any
 8
     loans has not been materially challenged in
                                                            potential for loans to be forgiven, so I --
9
     the various engagements that you've
                                                        9
                                                            it's not something that I've seen elsewhere,
10
    undertaken?
                                                       10
                                                            although forgivable loans can be used for
         Α.
               No, I don't think -- I think it's
                                                       11
                                                            certain types of compensation to employees to
11
12
    because it's not a material issue, and so you
                                                       12
                                                            retain them, certainly would be -- be
13
                                                       13
    don't -- you don't see very many companies
                                                            humorous to do that with respect to a
14
     that I have been around where significant
                                                       14
                                                            founder, but I don't -- in my experience, I
15
     amounts of the assets are company --
                                                       15
                                                            haven't seen this as a -- as a material issue
     intercompany related loans or -- or loans to
16
                                                       16
                                                            like it is in this case.
17
     the senior executives, where it's all
                                                       17
                                                                      And I was asking whether you had
     controlled by the same executive. It's a --
18
                                                       18
                                                            investigated, so that you could -- currently,
19
         Q.
               Have you --
                                                       19
                                                            whether or not there are other companies in
20
         A.
               -- it's a rare item.
                                                       20
                                                            which there was a practice like the one you
21
               Have you made any investigation, as
                                                       21
                                                            just described.
22
    part of your role in this case, into whether
                                                       22
                                                                      MR. MORRIS: Objection, asked and
23
     there are other companies that -- that have
                                                       23
                                                                answered.
24
                                                       24
     similar loan programs, where executives or
                                                                      I haven't done any other
25
     senior officers receive loans that have the
                                                       25
                                                            investigation, other than -- than my
                                               Page 176
                                                                                                      Page 177
1
                      J. Seery
                                                        1
                                                                             J. Seery
 2
     experience.
                                                        2
                                                            that have been north of $500,000, so nothing
 3
               Okay. Did you investigate whether
                                                        3
                                                            like this.
         Ο.
 4
                                                        4
                                                                      And I did determine that Okada's --
     or not any of the following people - mike
 5
    Hurley, Tim Lawlor, Pat Daugherty, Jack Yang,
                                                        5
                                                            I believe he only had one loan. I could be
    Paul Adkins, Labraya Mamoud [ph], Jean Luc
                                                            wrong on that, but that's the only one I
 6
                                                        6
 7
                                                        7
     Everland [ph] or Appou Landoseri [ph]
                                                            recollect, and he paid it back.
8
    received loans that were potentially
                                                        8
                                                                      And did he pay it back in
9
     forgivable and then that were, in whole or in
                                                        9
                                                            connection with this bankruptcy, a demand of
10
    part, forgiven?
                                                       10
                                                            the bankruptcy?
11
               MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
                                                       11
                                                                Α.
                                                                      He did, yes.
12
         form of the question.
                                                       12
                                                                Ο.
                                                                      Under threat of lawsuit?
13
               I have looked at that, yes.
                                                       13
                                                                      No. I spoke to Mark and I said you
         Α.
14
         Ο.
               Okay. And what did you determine?
                                                       14
                                                            should go talk to your counsel, you have a
15
                                                       15
               I determined that Highland, I don't
                                                            very good counsel, Sullivan & Cromwell.
    believe, has made a loan to any employee
                                                       16
                                                                      He went and talked to them and he
16
                                                            said you're right, they said I have to pay it
17
     other than Okada and Dondero in about twelve
                                                       17
18
     years; that no loans were forgiven, notes --
                                                            back. And he did, and we structured it.
                                                       18
19
     so they were -- actually, I don't believe
                                                       19
                                                                      So did you determine that the --
                                                                0.
20
     they got any before 2014, maybe '13.
                                                       20
                                                            you mentioned Yang.
21
               No senior executive got it except
                                                       21
                                                                      But the others that I listed, did
22
                                                       22
                                                            you determine whether they had or had not
    with respect to Yang, but he was employed by
23
    New York, not by HCMLP. That was part --
                                                       23
                                                            received loans that had been forgiven in
24
     effectively, was part of a severance when he
                                                       24
                                                            whole or in part?
25
     left. And I don't think there's been any
                                                       25
                                                                      It looks like they had, and that
```

	Page 178		Page 179
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	was about more than ten or twelve years ago	2	compensation, that the notes are bona fide
3	and it had not been done since. None of	3	notes from the start that don't have a
4	those were obviously a founder, none of them	4	forgiveness term and that the forgiveness
5	were more than \$500,000.	5	term, for tax purposes, is subsequent and
6	Q. Okay. And did you learn that all	6	that taxes then are only paid when the note
7	of the notes that existed in relation to	7	is actually forgiven?
8	those loans for the people that I listed	8	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
9	none of the notes actually contained the	9	form of the question.
10	forgiveness term?	10	A. My experience and understanding of
11	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	11	that is actually different. When an employee
12	form of the question.	12	receives a forgivable loan as part of either
13	A. I I do not know that, no.	13	their retention, and often it happens as a
14	Q. Well, did you search for the notes	14	a way to either retain somebody or to employ
15	at issue?	15	someone, that it's very clear that it's
16	A. I did not look at the notes, I just	16	forgivable up front. Otherwise, it would be
17	looked at the dollar amounts.	17	a trust-me loan.
18	Q. Did you talk to anyone who had been	18	Now, certainly the founder who
19	involved in the the issuance of the notes	19	controls everything can make his own trust-me
20	to the people that I listed that were	20	loan because he can trust himself, but but
21	eventually forgiven?	21	to structure it to avoid taxes, my experience
22	A. No.	22	is that that's actually illegal.
23	Q. Okay. Are are you aware that	23	Q. If you make payments on the loan
24	it's generally the case, when companies use	24	and it's only forgivable if certain
25	potentially forgivable loans as a part of	25	conditions occur in the future that are not
	potentially rorgivable roams as a part or		conditions occur in the ractic that are not
1	Page 180	1	Page 181
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	J. Seery certain	2	J. Seery form of the question.
2 3	J. Seery certain MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	2 3	J. Seery form of the question. A. It it means a transaction
2 3 4	J. Seery certain MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form.	2 3 4	J. Seery form of the question. A. It it means a transaction that's that's structured in a way to
2 3 4 5	J. Seery  certain  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  form.  Q doesn't that does in your	2 3 4 5	J. Seery form of the question. A. It it means a transaction that's that's structured in a way to minimize the the tax cost.
2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery  certain  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  form.  Q doesn't that does in your  understanding, isn't that a a loan that,	2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery form of the question. A. It it means a transaction that's that's structured in a way to minimize the the tax cost. Q. Okay. And is your impression of
2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery  certain  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  form.  Q doesn't that does in your  understanding, isn't that a a loan that,  until it's forgiven, is a bona fide loan of	2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery form of the question. A. It it means a transaction that's that's structured in a way to minimize the the tax cost. Q. Okay. And is your impression of Mr. Dondero that, if he has a choice between
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery  certain  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  form.  Q doesn't that does in your  understanding, isn't that a a loan that,  until it's forgiven, is a bona fide loan of  which no taxes are owed?	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery form of the question. A. It it means a transaction that's that's structured in a way to minimize the the tax cost. Q. Okay. And is your impression of Mr. Dondero that, if he has a choice between doing a transaction in a tax efficient way
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery  certain  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  form.  Q doesn't that does in your  understanding, isn't that a a loan that,  until it's forgiven, is a bona fide loan of  which no taxes are owed?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery form of the question. A. It it means a transaction that's that's structured in a way to minimize the the tax cost. Q. Okay. And is your impression of Mr. Dondero that, if he has a choice between doing a transaction in a tax efficient way and a non-tax efficient way, that he would
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	J. Seery  certain  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  form.  Q doesn't that does in your  understanding, isn't that a a loan that,  until it's forgiven, is a bona fide loan of  which no taxes are owed?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  form of the question.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	J. Seery form of the question. A. It it means a transaction that's that's structured in a way to minimize the the tax cost. Q. Okay. And is your impression of Mr. Dondero that, if he has a choice between doing a transaction in a tax efficient way and a non-tax efficient way, that he would pick the tax efficient way?
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	J. Seery  certain  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  form.  Q doesn't that does in your  understanding, isn't that a a loan that,  until it's forgiven, is a bona fide loan of  which no taxes are owed?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  form of the question.  A. I think you've described I	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	J. Seery form of the question. A. It it means a transaction that's that's structured in a way to minimize the the tax cost. Q. Okay. And is your impression of Mr. Dondero that, if he has a choice between doing a transaction in a tax efficient way and a non-tax efficient way, that he would pick the tax efficient way? A. I believe he would, yes.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	J. Seery  certain  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  form.  Q doesn't that does in your  understanding, isn't that a a loan that,  until it's forgiven, is a bona fide loan of  which no taxes are owed?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  form of the question.  A. I think you've described I  apologize.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	J. Seery form of the question. A. It it means a transaction that's that's structured in a way to minimize the the tax cost. Q. Okay. And is your impression of Mr. Dondero that, if he has a choice between doing a transaction in a tax efficient way and a non-tax efficient way, that he would pick the tax efficient way? A. I believe he would, yes. Q. Okay. And are you condemning of
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	J. Seery  certain  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  form.  Q doesn't that does in your  understanding, isn't that a a loan that,  until it's forgiven, is a bona fide loan of  which no taxes are owed?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  form of the question.  A. I think you've described I  apologize.  I think you've described what I'd	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	J. Seery form of the question. A. It it means a transaction that's that's structured in a way to minimize the the tax cost. Q. Okay. And is your impression of Mr. Dondero that, if he has a choice between doing a transaction in a tax efficient way and a non-tax efficient way, that he would pick the tax efficient way? A. I believe he would, yes.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	J. Seery  certain  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  form.  Q doesn't that does in your  understanding, isn't that a a loan that,  until it's forgiven, is a bona fide loan of  which no taxes are owed?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  form of the question.  A. I think you've described I  apologize.  I think you've described what I'd  call a scam.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	J. Seery form of the question. A. It it means a transaction that's that's structured in a way to minimize the the tax cost. Q. Okay. And is your impression of Mr. Dondero that, if he has a choice between doing a transaction in a tax efficient way and a non-tax efficient way, that he would pick the tax efficient way? A. I believe he would, yes. Q. Okay. And are you condemning of that A. No.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	J. Seery  certain  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  form.  Q doesn't that does in your  understanding, isn't that a a loan that,  until it's forgiven, is a bona fide loan of  which no taxes are owed?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  form of the question.  A. I think you've described I  apologize.  I think you've described what I'd  call a scam.  Q. Let's step step back a second,	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	J. Seery form of the question. A. It it means a transaction that's that's structured in a way to minimize the the tax cost. Q. Okay. And is your impression of Mr. Dondero that, if he has a choice between doing a transaction in a tax efficient way and a non-tax efficient way, that he would pick the tax efficient way? A. I believe he would, yes. Q. Okay. And are you condemning of that A. No. Q is it a bad thing?
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	J. Seery  certain  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  form.  Q doesn't that does in your  understanding, isn't that a a loan that,  until it's forgiven, is a bona fide loan of  which no taxes are owed?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  form of the question.  A. I think you've described I  apologize.  I think you've described what I'd  call a scam.  Q. Let's step step back a second,  Mr. Seery.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	J. Seery form of the question. A. It it means a transaction that's that's structured in a way to minimize the the tax cost. Q. Okay. And is your impression of Mr. Dondero that, if he has a choice between doing a transaction in a tax efficient way and a non-tax efficient way, that he would pick the tax efficient way? A. I believe he would, yes. Q. Okay. And are you condemning of that A. No. Q is it a bad thing? A. Tax tax avoidance is a
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	certain  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form.  Q doesn't that does in your understanding, isn't that a a loan that, until it's forgiven, is a bona fide loan of which no taxes are owed?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.  A. I think you've described I apologize.  I think you've described what I'd call a scam.  Q. Let's step step back a second, Mr. Seery.  If I use the term "tax efficient	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	J. Seery form of the question. A. It it means a transaction that's that's structured in a way to minimize the the tax cost. Q. Okay. And is your impression of Mr. Dondero that, if he has a choice between doing a transaction in a tax efficient way and a non-tax efficient way, that he would pick the tax efficient way? A. I believe he would, yes. Q. Okay. And are you condemning of that A. No. Q is it a bad thing? A. Tax tax avoidance is a Q. Taxi efficiency.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	J. Seery  certain  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  form.  Q doesn't that does in your  understanding, isn't that a a loan that,  until it's forgiven, is a bona fide loan of  which no taxes are owed?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  form of the question.  A. I think you've described I  apologize.  I think you've described what I'd  call a scam.  Q. Let's step step back a second,  Mr. Seery.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	J. Seery form of the question. A. It it means a transaction that's that's structured in a way to minimize the the tax cost. Q. Okay. And is your impression of Mr. Dondero that, if he has a choice between doing a transaction in a tax efficient way and a non-tax efficient way, that he would pick the tax efficient way? A. I believe he would, yes. Q. Okay. And are you condemning of that A. No. Q is it a bad thing? A. Tax tax avoidance is a Q. Taxi efficiency. A. I said tax avoidance is a duty,
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	J. Seery  certain  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  form.  Q doesn't that does in your  understanding, isn't that a a loan that,  until it's forgiven, is a bona fide loan of  which no taxes are owed?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  form of the question.  A. I think you've described I  apologize.  I think you've described what I'd  call a scam.  Q. Let's step step back a second,  Mr. Seery.  If I use the term "tax efficient  transaction," what do you understand that to  mean?	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	J. Seery form of the question. A. It it means a transaction that's that's structured in a way to minimize the the tax cost. Q. Okay. And is your impression of Mr. Dondero that, if he has a choice between doing a transaction in a tax efficient way and a non-tax efficient way, that he would pick the tax efficient way? A. I believe he would, yes. Q. Okay. And are you condemning of that A. No. Q is it a bad thing? A. Tax tax avoidance is a Q. Taxi efficiency. A. I said tax avoidance is a duty, taxi evasion is a crime.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	certain  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form.  Q doesn't that does in your understanding, isn't that a a loan that, until it's forgiven, is a bona fide loan of which no taxes are owed?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.  A. I think you've described I apologize.  I think you've described what I'd call a scam.  Q. Let's step step back a second, Mr. Seery.  If I use the term "tax efficient transaction," what do you understand that to	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	J. Seery form of the question. A. It it means a transaction that's that's structured in a way to minimize the the tax cost. Q. Okay. And is your impression of Mr. Dondero that, if he has a choice between doing a transaction in a tax efficient way and a non-tax efficient way, that he would pick the tax efficient way? A. I believe he would, yes. Q. Okay. And are you condemning of that A. No. Q is it a bad thing? A. Tax tax avoidance is a Q. Taxi efficiency. A. I said tax avoidance is a duty,
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	Certain  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form.  Q doesn't that does in your understanding, isn't that a a loan that, until it's forgiven, is a bona fide loan of which no taxes are owed?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.  A. I think you've described I apologize.  I think you've described what I'd call a scam.  Q. Let's step step back a second, Mr. Seery.  If I use the term "tax efficient transaction," what do you understand that to mean?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the (Simultaneous speaking.)	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	form of the question.  A. It it means a transaction that's that's structured in a way to minimize the the tax cost.  Q. Okay. And is your impression of Mr. Dondero that, if he has a choice between doing a transaction in a tax efficient way and a non-tax efficient way, that he would pick the tax efficient way?  A. I believe he would, yes.  Q. Okay. And are you condemning of that  A. No.  Q is it a bad thing? A. Tax tax avoidance is a Q. Taxi efficiency. A. I said tax avoidance is a duty, taxi evasion is a crime.  Q. Okay. So when you say "duty," what do you mean?
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	Certain  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form.  Q doesn't that does in your understanding, isn't that a a loan that, until it's forgiven, is a bona fide loan of which no taxes are owed?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.  A. I think you've described I apologize.  I think you've described what I'd call a scam.  Q. Let's step step back a second, Mr. Seery.  If I use the term "tax efficient transaction," what do you understand that to mean?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	form of the question.  A. It it means a transaction that's that's structured in a way to minimize the the tax cost.  Q. Okay. And is your impression of Mr. Dondero that, if he has a choice between doing a transaction in a tax efficient way and a non-tax efficient way, that he would pick the tax efficient way?  A. I believe he would, yes.  Q. Okay. And are you condemning of that  A. No.  Q is it a bad thing? A. Tax tax avoidance is a Q. Taxi efficiency.  A. I said tax avoidance is a duty, taxi evasion is a crime.  Q. Okay. So when you say "duty," what do you mean?  Remember, a jury is listening to
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	Certain  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form.  Q doesn't that does in your understanding, isn't that a a loan that, until it's forgiven, is a bona fide loan of which no taxes are owed?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.  A. I think you've described I apologize.  I think you've described what I'd call a scam.  Q. Let's step step back a second, Mr. Seery.  If I use the term "tax efficient transaction," what do you understand that to mean?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the (Simultaneous speaking.)  Q something is tax efficient, what does that mean to you, so I just make sure	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	form of the question.  A. It it means a transaction that's that's structured in a way to minimize the the tax cost.  Q. Okay. And is your impression of Mr. Dondero that, if he has a choice between doing a transaction in a tax efficient way and a non-tax efficient way, that he would pick the tax efficient way?  A. I believe he would, yes.  Q. Okay. And are you condemning of that  A. No.  Q is it a bad thing?  A. Tax tax avoidance is a Q. Taxi efficiency.  A. I said tax avoidance is a duty, taxi evasion is a crime.  Q. Okay. So when you say "duty," what do you mean?  Remember, a jury is listening to this so I want it to be clear.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	Certain  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form.  Q doesn't that does in your understanding, isn't that a a loan that, until it's forgiven, is a bona fide loan of which no taxes are owed?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.  A. I think you've described I apologize.  I think you've described what I'd call a scam.  Q. Let's step step back a second, Mr. Seery.  If I use the term "tax efficient transaction," what do you understand that to mean?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the (Simultaneous speaking.)  Q something is tax efficient, what	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	form of the question.  A. It it means a transaction that's that's structured in a way to minimize the the tax cost.  Q. Okay. And is your impression of Mr. Dondero that, if he has a choice between doing a transaction in a tax efficient way and a non-tax efficient way, that he would pick the tax efficient way?  A. I believe he would, yes.  Q. Okay. And are you condemning of that  A. No.  Q is it a bad thing? A. Tax tax avoidance is a Q. Taxi efficiency.  A. I said tax avoidance is a duty, taxi evasion is a crime.  Q. Okay. So when you say "duty," what do you mean?  Remember, a jury is listening to
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	Certain  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form.  Q doesn't that does in your understanding, isn't that a a loan that, until it's forgiven, is a bona fide loan of which no taxes are owed?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.  A. I think you've described I apologize.  I think you've described what I'd call a scam.  Q. Let's step step back a second, Mr. Seery.  If I use the term "tax efficient transaction," what do you understand that to mean?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the (Simultaneous speaking.)  Q something is tax efficient, what does that mean to you, so I just make sure	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	form of the question.  A. It it means a transaction that's that's structured in a way to minimize the the tax cost.  Q. Okay. And is your impression of Mr. Dondero that, if he has a choice between doing a transaction in a tax efficient way and a non-tax efficient way, that he would pick the tax efficient way?  A. I believe he would, yes.  Q. Okay. And are you condemning of that  A. No.  Q is it a bad thing?  A. Tax tax avoidance is a Q. Taxi efficiency.  A. I said tax avoidance is a duty, taxi evasion is a crime.  Q. Okay. So when you say "duty," what do you mean?  Remember, a jury is listening to this so I want it to be clear.

1	Page 182 J. Seery	1	Page 183 J. Seery
2	clear, just to be just to be	2	of a bona fide loan, that
3	certain. You may never get to a jury,	3	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
4	but go ahead.	4	form of the question.
5	A. I don't recall if that was a a	5	(Technical disruption.)
6	quote from Learned Hand or one of the other	6	Q later, but as long as that
7	well known	7	hasn't happened, interest payments should be
8	Q. It had that sound to you?	8	made, and if it's a
9	A judges, but I I think that	9	MR. RUKAVINA: We lost you,
10	structuring a transaction that has legitimate	10	Deborah. Deborah, we lost you.
	_	11	, -
11	purposes in a tax efficient way is not	12	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Can you
12	necessarily problematic.		did you hear me?
13	Structuring a transaction to avoid	13	MR. RUKAVINA: No.
14	taxes, and and mainly or solely to avoid	14	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Okay. I'll,
15	taxes, is actually a a violation of the	15	I'll I'll start over then.
16	Internal Revenue Code.	16	Q. In your experience, is it a
17	Q. And looking at the various loans to	17	characteristic of a bona fide loan, whether
18	Mr. Dondero and the related company loans	18	demand or a term loan, that until it is
19	that are the subject of the notes litigation	19	actually forgiven until and unless it is
20	that you are here today to testify about, was	20	forgiven, that annual interest payments
21	it the case that annual payments both on the	21	should be made on a demand loan, and whatever
22	term loans and interest payments on the	22	is due pursuant to the terms of the note on
23	demand loans were made?	23	the term loan should also be made annually?
24	A. Oftentimes, yes.	24	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
25	Q. Okay. And is that a characteristic	25	form of the question.
	Page 184		Page 185
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	A. I I think that's a	2	A. Can can you read that question
3	characteristic of a bona fide loan, but I	3	back
3 4	characteristic of a bona fide loan, but I think that you can have an accruing loan that	3 4	back (Simultaneous speaking.)
3 4 5	characteristic of a bona fide loan, but I think that you can have an accruing loan that doesn't have those payments that is also a	3 4 5	back (Simultaneous speaking.) A I didn't understand it.
3 4 5 6	characteristic of a bona fide loan, but I think that you can have an accruing loan that doesn't have those payments that is also a bona fide loan. And so I I do think these	3 4 5 6	back (Simultaneous speaking.) A I didn't understand it. MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: The court
3 4 5 6 7	characteristic of a bona fide loan, but I think that you can have an accruing loan that doesn't have those payments that is also a bona fide loan. And so I I do think these are bona fide loans. The money was given, a	3 4 5 6 7	back  (Simultaneous speaking.)  A I didn't understand it.  MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: The court  reporter can read it back.
3 4 5 6 7 8	characteristic of a bona fide loan, but I think that you can have an accruing loan that doesn't have those payments that is also a bona fide loan. And so I I do think these are bona fide loans. The money was given, a note was signed, the amounts are owed.	3 4 5 6 7 8	back  (Simultaneous speaking.)  A I didn't understand it.  MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: The court  reporter can read it back.  (As read by the reporter):
3 4 5 6 7 8 9	characteristic of a bona fide loan, but I think that you can have an accruing loan that doesn't have those payments that is also a bona fide loan. And so I I do think these are bona fide loans. The money was given, a note was signed, the amounts are owed.  Q. And do you have a reason to believe	3 4 5 6 7 8	back  (Simultaneous speaking.)  A I didn't understand it.  MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: The court reporter can read it back.  (As read by the reporter):  "QUESTION: So you don't think
3 4 5 6 7 8 9	characteristic of a bona fide loan, but I think that you can have an accruing loan that doesn't have those payments that is also a bona fide loan. And so I I do think these are bona fide loans. The money was given, a note was signed, the amounts are owed.  Q. And do you have a reason to believe that if it was in Mr. Dondero's power to	3 4 5 6 7 8	back  (Simultaneous speaking.)  A I didn't understand it.  MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: The court  reporter can read it back.  (As read by the reporter):  "QUESTION: So you don't think  that if Mr. Dondero had the opportunity
3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	characteristic of a bona fide loan, but I think that you can have an accruing loan that doesn't have those payments that is also a bona fide loan. And so I I do think these are bona fide loans. The money was given, a note was signed, the amounts are owed.  Q. And do you have a reason to believe that if it was in Mr. Dondero's power to attempt to have these loans subject to a	3 4 5 6 7 8	back  (Simultaneous speaking.)  A I didn't understand it.  MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: The court  reporter can read it back.  (As read by the reporter):  "QUESTION: So you don't think  that if Mr. Dondero had the opportunity  to have contingent compensation rather
3 4 5 6 7 8 9	characteristic of a bona fide loan, but I think that you can have an accruing loan that doesn't have those payments that is also a bona fide loan. And so I I do think these are bona fide loans. The money was given, a note was signed, the amounts are owed.  Q. And do you have a reason to believe that if it was in Mr. Dondero's power to attempt to have these loans subject to a condition under which there would be	3 4 5 6 7 8 9	back  (Simultaneous speaking.)  A I didn't understand it.  MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: The court reporter can read it back.  (As read by the reporter):  "QUESTION: So you don't think that if Mr. Dondero had the opportunity to have contingent compensation rather than compensation in 2017, 2018 or '19,
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Page 186
                                                                                                       Page 187
1
                        J. Seerv
                                                        1
                                                                              J. Seery
                 MR. MORRIS: And, and -- and I --
 2
                                                        2
                                                                       MR. MORRIS: Object --
 3
           and I object, you asked him if -- I
                                                        3
                                                                       I -- I know that cornerstone is
           just -- I, I --
                                                            sometimes referred to as a portfolio company.
 4
 5
                                                        5
                                                            I know that Trussway is referred to as a
                 MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Well, John --
 6
                 MR. MORRIS: -- it's not -- the
                                                        6
                                                            portfolio company.
7
           judge will rule.
                                                        7
                                                                       It would be -- I've never heard
 8
                 Go ahead.
                                                        8
                                                            anyone refer to as -- MGM as a portfolio
9
     BY MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ:
                                                        9
                                                            company.
10
                 You've heard of -- Highland has
                                                       10
                                                                Q.
                                                                       Have you ever made an inquiry as to
11
       interests in Cornerstone, Trussway and MGM,
                                                       11
                                                            whether sometimes it was colloquially called
12
       that's correct?
                                                       12
                                                            a portfolio company?
13
                 MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
                                                       13
                                                                       I -- I haven't made an inquiry as
14
           form of the question.
                                                       14
                                                             to it, no. I've been around the business for
15
                 You should be precise. Highland
                                                       15
                                                            a year-and-a-half, nineteen months.
       owns certain equity interests in Cornerstone,
                                                                       Have you ever heard Mr. Dondero
16
                                                       16
17
       approximately 4 percent. Highland owns,
                                                       17
                                                            refer to MGM as one of the portfolio
       indirectly, all of the interests -- almost
18
                                                       18
                                                             companies?
19
       all of the interests in Trussway. Highland
                                                       19
                                                                Α.
                                                                       No, I haven't. It would be very
20
       owns a small piece of MGM.
                                                       20
                                                            odd if he would.
                                                                       When you -- in the early days, when
21
                 Okay. And have you made any
                                                       21
22
       inquiry into whether employees at Highland
                                                       22
                                                            you communicated with Mr. Dondero about the
23
       referred to these colloquially as portfolio
                                                       23
                                                            prospects for the assets at Highland, did he
24
                                                       24
       companies?
                                                            appear to have high hopes for the
25
                                                       25
                                                            monetization and increase in value of
           Α.
                 I --
                                               Page 188
                                                                                                       Page 189
1
                      J. Seery
                                                        1
                                                                              J. Seery
 2
    Cornerstone, Trussway and MGM?
                                                        2
                                                                       Okay.
                                                                Q.
 3
               MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
                                                        3
                                                                       Certainly hope so.
                                                                Α.
 4
                                                        4
         form of the question.
                                                                       If in fact all three of those
 5
                                                             companies, MGM -- or Highland's interest in
               I don't recall him ever talking to
                                                        5
 6
    me very much about Cornerstone and potential
                                                             those three companies are successfully
                                                        6
7
                                                        7
     upside or Trussway.
                                                            monetized, will the assets of Highland exceed
                                                             its liabilities?
8
               He did have high hopes, or
                                                        8
9
     expressed high hopes, of upside value in MGM.
                                                        9
                                                                       MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
10
     But at the same time, he sold 1.7 million
                                                       10
                                                                 form of the question.
     shares after the filing for 7250. So that
                                                                       Extremely unlikely.
11
                                                       11
                                                                Α.
12
     sort of belied that optimism, but he
                                                       12
                                                                Ο.
                                                                       Possible though?
13
     expressed some optimism that MGM would have
                                                       13
                                                                       MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
14
     upside. And of course he sat on the board,
                                                       14
                                                                form of the question.
15
     so he'd have some insight into it.
                                                       15
                                                                       In your educated opinion --
16
               And it looks like, hopefully, he
                                                       16
                                                                       (Simultaneous speaking.)
     was right to -- in that optimism?
17
                                                       17
                                                                A.
                                                                       Can I -- can I answer your
               MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
                                                             question --
18
                                                       18
19
         form of the question.
                                                       19
                                                                 Ο.
20
                                                       20
               Is that right?
                                                                Α.
                                                                       -- unless "possible though" is just
21
               We'll find out.
                                                       21
                                                            a quip, because then I won't answer it.
         Α.
22
               So far it appears that his optimism
                                                       22
                                                                 Ο.
23
    may be justified; is that right?
                                                       23
                                                                Α.
                                                                       Is that a question?
                                                                       -- it's not a quip --
24
         Α.
               There's -- there's a transaction.
                                                       24
                                                                 Q.
25
     It's subject to approval and closure.
                                                       25
                                                                       Oh, okay.
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l .	Page 190		Page 191
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	Q it is a question.	2	form of the question.
3	A. It's we know what the at	3	A. I'm not in a position to answer
4	least now what the potential upside is to	4	that, but all of the assets minus the
5	MGM. We don't know what the upside is for	5	expenses to get there would need to exceed
6	Cornerstone or Trussway, but we understand	6	\$400 million.
7	the performance of the companies and the	7	Q. And right now, what do you think
8	framework with which somebody would value	8	the assets are worth?
9	them.	9	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
10	So it would be extremely unlikely,	10	form of the question.
11	not impossible but extremely unlikely, for	11	A. Again, I don't I know what MGM
12	those two companies - with MGM capped - to	12	is potentially worth, but it's hard to I
13	have a performance that exceeded the total	13	can't count that until it's done.
14	amount of claims.	14	Q. I know but
15	Q. How close a matter is it?	15	(Simultaneous speaking.)
16	MR. MORRIS: Objection	16	MR. MORRIS: Let him finish,
17	(Simultaneous speaking and	17	please let him finish.
18	reporter interjection.)	18	A. You don't can't count that until
19	O. How how close how close	19	it's done. And then the other the other
20	let me let me strike that and start again.	20	businesses we have to put through a process,
21	What would MGM, Trussway and	21	to see what they're worth. And they're,
22	Cornerstone need to be monetized for in order	22	they're, they're they've got potential
23	for the overall assets of Highland to exceed	23	upside but they have challenges as well.
24	its liabilities?	24	Q. Okay. Assuming you are as
25	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	25	successful as you hope to be, and crediting
			700 000, 000 000, 000
1	Page 192	1	Page 193
1 2	J. Seery	1 2	J. Seery
2	$\hbox{ J. Seery} \\ \hbox{ for the moment the potential value of the MGM}$	2	J. Seery fellow.
2	J. Seery for the moment the potential value of the MGM transaction, what do you think the assets of	2 3	J. Seery fellow. Q. So then you hope it is likely?
2 3 4	J. Seery for the moment the potential value of the MGM transaction, what do you think the assets of Highland are likely to be worth?	2 3 4	J. Seery  fellow.  Q. So then you hope it is likely?  A. I certainly hope so.
2 3 4 5	J. Seery  for the moment the potential value of the MGM  transaction, what do you think the assets of  Highland are likely to be worth?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	2 3 4 5	J. Seery  fellow.  Q. So then you hope it is likely?  A. I certainly hope so.  And, again, that that hope
2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery  for the moment the potential value of the MGM  transaction, what do you think the assets of  Highland are likely to be worth?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  form of the question.	2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery  fellow.  Q. So then you hope it is likely?  A. I certainly hope so.  And, again, that that hope  counts on \$63 million of note collections
2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery  for the moment the potential value of the MGM  transaction, what do you think the assets of  Highland are likely to be worth?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  form of the question.  A. I I don't know. Part of it	2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery  fellow.  Q. So then you hope it is likely?  A. I certainly hope so.  And, again, that that hope  counts on \$63 million of note collections  that I do expect to collect.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery  for the moment the potential value of the MGM  transaction, what do you think the assets of  Highland are likely to be worth?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  form of the question.  A. I I don't know. Part of it  depends on again, it's the costs. It's	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery  fellow.  Q. So then you hope it is likely?  A. I certainly hope so.  And, again, that that hope  counts on \$63 million of note collections  that I do expect to collect.  MR. MORRIS: Deborah?
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery  for the moment the potential value of the MGM  transaction, what do you think the assets of  Highland are likely to be worth?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  form of the question.  A. I I don't know. Part of it  depends on again, it's the costs. It's  collection of \$63 million notes in these	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery  fellow.  Q. So then you hope it is likely?  A. I certainly hope so.  And, again, that that hope  counts on \$63 million of note collections  that I do expect to collect.  MR. MORRIS: Deborah?  MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Yes.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	J. Seery  for the moment the potential value of the MGM  transaction, what do you think the assets of  Highland are likely to be worth?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  form of the question.  A. I I don't know. Part of it  depends on again, it's the costs. It's  collection of \$63 million notes in these  litigations, and then it's the ultimate value	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	fellow.  Q. So then you hope it is likely?  A. I certainly hope so. And, again, that that hope counts on \$63 million of note collections that I do expect to collect.  MR. MORRIS: Deborah?  MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Yes. MR. MORRIS: I apologize for
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1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	you're okay, let me do one more segment	2	aware that there were what at issue in
3	and then I'll let you I'll excuse	3	these litigations, a term loan between
4	you to to do your errands and we'll	4	Highland and HCMS?
5	come back?	5	A. Yes.
6	MR. MORRIS: Sure.	6	Q. And a term loan between Highland
7	(Brief off-record discussion.)	7	and HCRE?
8	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: He needs	8	A. Yes.
9	he needs his ten or twelve minutes	9	Q. Okay. And when was the last
10	before 6:00	10	payment due on the HCMS term loan and the
11	THE WITNESS: Got it, got it.	11	HCRE term loan?
12	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: is that	12	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
13	right?	13	form of the question.
14	MR. MORRIS: Yep.	14	A. I I don't recall exactly. I
15	BY MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ:	15	thought they were they were all in and
16	Q. Okay. When Mr. Rukavina was	16	around the same time. If they weren't the
17	questioning you, he was questioning you about	17	31st, they were right there.
18	the nonpayment of the NexPoint Advisors loan.	18	Q. All right. And were the annual
19	Remember that?	19	payments for the HCMS and HCRE term loans
20	And you were you only talking	20	made by December 31, 2020?
21	about NexPoint, that that loan not the	21	A. They were not.
22	HCMS term loan and not the HCRE term loan?	22	Q. And were the annual and was a
23	A. He was only asking me about the	23	payment made on each of those loans in
24	NexPoint, as I understood it.	24	January of 2021?
25	Q. Okay. So let me ask you, are you	25	A. I believe a payment was made after
	Page 196		Page 197
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	J. Seery they were accelerated for each of those	2	J. Seery as Exhibit 111 before?
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1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	A. Yes, I know.	2	A. I don't recall specifically; I
3	Q. Okay. And can you tell me who	3	would have to look. If we had it, we would
4	wrote it?	4	have produced it.
5	MR. MORRIS: No.	5	Q. Okay. And if you had it, would you
6	Q. And that's because your counsel has	6	also have attached it to the complaint
7	directed you not to answer	7	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
8	MR. MORRIS: That's right.	8	form
9	Q or because you don't know?	9	Q the way the NexPoint letter was
10	MR. MORRIS: It's because I'm	10	attached to the complaint?
11	directing him not to answer. We're not	11	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
12	going to even find out whether he knows	12	form of the question.
13	or not because it's privileged.	13	A. I I don't know if we would have
14	Q. Okay. Is this the only letter that	14	or not. I think the demand is sufficient on
15	you caused to be sent to Highland Capital	15	its own.
16	Management Services with regard to the term	16	Q. Other than the possibility that
17	loan in the original principal amount of	17	there was a let me back up.
18	20,247,628?	18	Was there a payment made in January
19	A. I don't recall. I would expect	19	on the HCMS term loan?
20	there to have been a follow-up letter as	20	A. I thought there was, but I don't
21	well, but I don't recall specifically.	21	recall specifically. I'd have to look at
22	Perhaps you have it.	22	the it would be in the complaint, I would
23	Q. I do not. That's why I'm asking, I	23	think.
24	don't see a letter like the one that we saw	24	Q. Okay. And if the complaint says
25	earlier that was to NexPoint.	25	there was, then there then that would be
23	earrier that was to Mearonic.	25	chere was, then there that would be
1	Page 200	1	Page 201
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	J. Seery the case?	2	J. Seery A. Not that I recall.
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	the case?  A. If there was, it would have similar to the NPA, it would have been applied on account.  Q. Other than the letter that's been marked as Exhibit 111, did you have any communications with anyone at Highland Capital Management Services about the note or the payment or the nonpayment other than this possible post-payment letter and the that was similar to the NexPoint one that we looked at earlier?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.  A. I would only have communicated through the demands.  Q. Okay. So just to make it very clear, did you talk with Mr. Dondero about the HCMS note payment, nonpayment or status of the of the demand?  A. No.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	A. Not that I recall. Q. Okay. What about Ms. Hendrix and Mr. Klos; did you talk with either of them about the note, the nonpayment, the payment or the status of the of of the loan? A. Do you mean at the time this demand note was sent? Q. Yes, in in December of 2020 or January/February of 2021, that time frame. A. Not that I recall specifically, no. Q. And was it your understanding that Highland provided shared services to Highland Capital Management Services? MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question. A. It did not have a shared service arrangement Q. That wasn't wasn't my question. A. I'm answering your question . But lots of free services were given to lots of Dondero entities by lots of

1	Page 202 J. Seery	1	Page 203 J. Seery
2	Highland provided shared services to Highland	2	companies as if they're standalone operating
3	Capital Management Services?	3	entities that actually do things. These are
4	A. No.	4	entries on paper that move money around.
5	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	5	So when Dondero asks an employee to
6	form	6	do work on behalf of himself, whether that's
1 7	A. Sorry.	7	closing his own house loans, whether that's
8	MR. MORRIS: of the question.	8	coming over and doing work at his house or
9	A. No, shared shared services refer	9	whether it's working for Highland Capital
10	to a specific agreement. There was no	10	Management Services, they they did it and
11	there was no agreement or other arrangement.	11	Highland was not compensated.
12	Highland employees did things	12	Q. Have you have you investigated
13	wherever Dondero asked them to do.	13	whether there was effective compensation for
14	Q. I, I I assume, when you say	14	the services that Highland provided to
15	there was no agreement, you're talking about	15	Highland Capital Management Services?
16	no formal written agreement like the one	16	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
17	we've looked at for NexPoint earlier today	17	form of the question.
18	MR. MORRIS: Objection to	18	A. I I don't know what effective
19	Q is that what you're referring	19	compensation means, but I have investigated
20	to?	20	whether Highland Capital Management received
21	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	21	anything from HCM Services.
22	form of the question.	22	Q. And who did you ask?
23	A. No, I'm referring to any type of	23	A. It's been part of the ongoing
24	agreement.	24	review of the business throughout the second
25	You, you you refer to these	25	half of this case and into the spring of this
_	111, 111		
1	J. Seery	1	Page 205 J. Seery
1 2		1 2	J. Seery
1	J. Seery		<del>-</del>
2	J. Seery year.	2	J. Seery Services really just owned certain things and
2 3	J. Seery year. Q. And did you determine, in the	2 3	J. Seery Services really just owned certain things and took money out of Highland.
2 3 4	year.  Q. And did you determine, in the course of that investigation, that there was	2 3 4	J. Seery Services really just owned certain things and took money out of Highland.  The fact of the matter is, Highland
2 3 4 5	J. Seery year. Q. And did you determine, in the course of that investigation, that there was a pattern and practice of Highland providing	2 3 4 5	J. Seery Services really just owned certain things and took money out of Highland.  The fact of the matter is, Highland Capital Services' main business is that it
2 3 4 5 6	year. Q. And did you determine, in the course of that investigation, that there was a pattern and practice of Highland providing services like the ones in the NexPoint shared	2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery Services really just owned certain things and took money out of Highland.  The fact of the matter is, Highland Capital Services' main business is that it gives money to Jim Dondero. I think he owes
2 3 4 5 6 7	year.  Q. And did you determine, in the course of that investigation, that there was a pattern and practice of Highland providing services like the ones in the NexPoint shared services agreement to Highland Capital	2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery Services really just owned certain things and took money out of Highland.  The fact of the matter is, Highland Capital Services' main business is that it gives money to Jim Dondero. I think he owes around a hundred million to services.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	year. Q. And did you determine, in the course of that investigation, that there was a pattern and practice of Highland providing services like the ones in the NexPoint shared services agreement to Highland Capital Management Services?	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	J. Seery Services really just owned certain things and took money out of Highland.  The fact of the matter is, Highland Capital Services' main business is that it gives money to Jim Dondero. I think he owes around a hundred million to services.  MO* MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Move to
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	Page 206		Page 207
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	So there wasn't doing work for a fund, et	2	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: If you want
3	cetera, so I don't there were certain	3	to take it now, that's fine.
4	things that were done. Whether they were ad	4	MR. MORRIS: Yeah, I would
5	hoc or specific, I didn't see any true	5	appreciate it.
6	pattern that this was similar to an agreement	6	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Well,
7	where third true third-party services were	7	actually, why don't if you don't
8	being continually performed.	8	mind, let me just finish 110.
9	Q. Did Highland Capital Management	9	MR. MORRIS: Okay.
10	Services have employees that you knew of?	10	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: I think that
11	A. No.	11	will be pretty quick and then
12	Q. Okay. So if it wanted to pay a	12	MR. MORRIS: Okay.
13	bill, it was using employees at Highland	13	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: then we
14	Capital Management to do that, correct?	14	can break.
15	A. If it had a bill, yeah.	15	Is that all right?
16	Q. Okay. And in fact, did did	16	MR. MORRIS: Sure.
17	Highland Capital Management charge Highland	17	BY MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ:
18	Capital Management Services for shared	18	Q. Okay. Okay. Can you see Exhibit
19	services?	19	110?
20	A. I don't believe so.	20	A. I can, yes.
21	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Let me show	21	Q. Okay. And I'm going to scroll down
22	you another document that I'll has	22	because what I'm going to ask you about is
23	been premarked as Exhibit 110.	23	the email from Fred Caruso to Brian Collins,
24	MR. MORRIS: Are we going to be	24	JP Sevilla, Frank Waterhouse, Dave Klos, with
25	able to take that break shortly?	25	a copy to you.
1	•		
	5 000		2 000
1	Page 208 J. Seery	1	Page 209 J. Seery
1 2	J. Seery	1 2	=
1			J. Seery
2	J. Seery Do you recall Exhibit 110? A. Not specifically, no.	2	J. Seery outstanding fees and cost reimbursements.
2 3	J. Seery Do you recall Exhibit 110? A. Not specifically, no.	2 3	J. Seery outstanding fees and cost reimbursements. What kind of fees were these?
2 3 4	J. Seery Do you recall Exhibit 110?  A. Not specifically, no.  Q. Do you generally well, first,	2 3 4	J. Seery outstanding fees and cost reimbursements. What kind of fees were these? A. I believe some of these were fees
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			1
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	confirms that HCMLP was either providing	2	Q. I take it you got the gist.
3	services or advancing costs for HCM Services	3	A. I have made inquiry regarding
4	and then billing HCM Services?	4	whether there was any arrangement for to
5	THE WITNESS: Objection to the	5	provide services and pay back for those
6	form of the question.	6	services, and I was told there wasn't.
7	A. I I believe it was the latter.	7	Q. Who did you make
8	Q. Can you exclude the possibility	8	A. That's my recollection.
9	that this was an instance of HCMLP billing	9	Q. Who did you who did you make an
10	HCM Services for services performed by HCMLP?	10	inquiry to?
11	A. Well, there was no agreement, so I	11	A. Our our accounting team.
12	don't know the basis of it, but we could look	12	Q. And any which people?
13	for it. I don't I don't think that's the	13	A. That would be Waterhouse and Klos
14	case.	14	and Hendrix.
15	O. Do you know whether or not there	15	It's not a specific inquiry that I
16	was an oral agreement with respect to HCM	16	made. There was this was over the time
17	providing services to HCM Services?	17	during the case.
18	A. Not that I ever heard of.	18	Q. You actually have a specific
19	Q. Did you ever specifically make an	19	recollection of speaking to any of the people
20	inquiry	20	that you just listed, like to Surgent, Klos
21	A. I, I have made	21	and
22	(Simultaneous speaking.)	22	A. I didn't mention Surgent.
23	A. You're not finished? I'm sorry.	23	Q. Okay. Klos, Hendrix and
24	Q. You can you can answer.	24	Waterhouse?
25	A. I, I have	25	A. Yes.
		1	
	D 010		2 012
1	J. Seery	1	Page 213 J. Seery
1 2	<del>-</del>	1 2	_
	J. Seery		J. Seery
2	J. Seery Q. Okay. Do you have a specific	2	J. Seery Q. Did you ask whether there was an
2 3	J. Seery Q. Okay. Do you have a specific recollection of asking any or any of them	2 3	J. Seery Q. Did you ask whether there was an agreement caused by a pattern and practice of
2 3 4	J. Seery Q. Okay. Do you have a specific recollection of asking any or any of them whether there was an unwritten agreement	2 3 4	J. Seery Q. Did you ask whether there was an agreement caused by a pattern and practice of conduct?
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			1
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	Have you seen it before?	2	view, by December 31, 2020?
3	A. It it looks familiar, yes.	3	A. I believe there was, yes.
4	Q. Okay. This is a letter dated	4	Q. And was it made?
5	January 7, from you to Mr. Dondero at HCR	5	A. No.
6	HCRE Partners.	6	Q. And was the payment made in January
7	Did you cause this letter to be	7	of 2021?
8	sent?	8	A. A payment was made in January of
9	A. Yes.	9	2021 on account that the full amount that
10	Q. And like Exhibit 1 I think 111,	10	was demanded.
11	was this written by your counsel?	11	Q. Well, when high when HCM
12	A. It it certainly had my counsel's	12	received the payment from HCRE Partners, who
13	input and my input, so how	13	facilitated the the making of the payment,
14	Q. Okay.	14	as far as you know?
15	A I probably got a base and marked	15	A. I don't know.
16	it up, and they finished it.	16	Q. Do you know if anyone from Highland
17	Q. Okay. And	17	Capital Management was involved in the making
18	A. Same as the other.	18	of HCRE's payment to HCM?
19	Q. Okay. And was there any	19	A. I don't know.
20	communication, other than Exhibit 112,	20	Q. Do you know whether HCRE had
21	between you and HCRE Partners about the HCRE	21	employees?
22	term loan?	22	A. I don't believe it did.
23	A. No.	23	Q. And so was it your understanding,
24	Q. Do you know whether was there a	24	generally, that HCM employees provided
25	payment due on the HCRE term loan, in your	25	services like paying bills for HCRE Partners?
1	D 016		5 015
1	Page 216 J. Seerv	1	Page 217 J. Seerv
1 2	J. Seery	1 2	J. Seery
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.  A. It was similar to HCM Services, but that doesn't mean they were the only people to do anything for HCRE; I just don't know.  Q. Well, when HCM received the payments in January of 2021 from HCRE and HCM Services, was there any communication that these payments were being made to pay down the term loan generally as opposed to to making the payment otherwise to be made on December 31, 2020?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the form of the question.  A. I I'm not sure I understand your question, but I I don't recall any specific communication. Certainly if there was a payment made, we would have applied it on the total balance due, as you described.  Q. But did anyone on behalf of the HCRE or HCMS communicate that the payments	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	J. Seery  the of the year?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  form of the question.  A. Again, I I don't think I  understand your question, but I don't know if  there was any communication at all. I just  don't recall.  Q. You don't recall one?  A. No.  Q. Did you look, in the course of  responding to the discovery, at the what  the the means by which HCM received the  payments from HCRE and HCMS?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  form of the question.  A. I I believe I did. I certainly  looked at the total payments that came in  from various entities and how we applied  them, but I don't recall any specifics around  communication.  Q. Well, did you look for the wire

	Page 218		Page 219
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	A. I, I	2	payment had been applied to the principal
3	Q. Was there let me rephrase.	3	balance as opposed to satisfying and curing
4	Was did the payments come in by	4	any default on the note?
5	wire?	5	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
6	A. I don't recall.	6	form of the question.
7	Q. Did you look for any communication	7	A. If if we did send it, it would
8	that would accompany the payment?	8	have been in the the production. It
9	For example, a check can have a	9	certainly would have there was no cure
10	note on the note line, a wire can have a note	10	provision in the notes, so we would have
11	on the re line, an ACH payment can have a	11	applied it in the same way as we did the NPA
12	note on a re line. Did you attempt, in	12	payment and the services payment.
13	responding to the discovery in these notes	13	Q. If there are in fact no
14	cases, to find any such communications?	14	post-payment letters for the HCRE term loan
15	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	15	and the HCMS term loan, was there a reason
16	form of the question.	16	for that?
17	A. I'm relatively certain it didn't	17	A. No, no reason if there are none.
18	come in as a check, because I would have	18	They're not required. The notes are very
19	known that. I just don't recall if it came	19	
	in by wire or ACH, and I didn't look for any	20	clear with respect to the waiver of demand,
20			presentment.
21	specific communication that accompanied the	21	So there's no requirement of it. I
22	wire or the ACH payment.	22	thought there would be, that I would have
23	Q. Okay. And with respect to HCRE,	23	sent it, but I don't don't recall
24	did you send a letter like the one we looked	24	specifically.
25	at earlier for NexPoint, contending that the	25	Q. Did anyone on behalf of HCRE ever
	Page 220		Page 221
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	J. Seery communicate an acknowledgment or acceptance	2	J. Seery form of the question, and asked and
2 3	J. Seery communicate an acknowledgment or acceptance that the loan was in default and that the	2 3	J. Seery form of the question, and asked and answered.
2 3 4	J. Seery communicate an acknowledgment or acceptance that the loan was in default and that the payment would be applied to the principal	2 3 4	J. Seery  form of the question, and asked and answered.  A. I I don't recall the specific
2 3 4 5	J. Seery communicate an acknowledgment or acceptance that the loan was in default and that the payment would be applied to the principal to the balance?	2 3 4 5	J. Seery  form of the question, and asked and answered.  A. I I don't recall the specific words.
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2 3 4 5 6 7	J. Seery communicate an acknowledgment or acceptance that the loan was in default and that the payment would be applied to the principal to the balance?  A. Other than the terms of the note, no.	2 3 4 5	J. Seery  form of the question, and asked and answered.  A. I I don't recall the specific words.  Q. Now, at in and and you don't recall when the words were sent to you
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1	Page 222 J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	affiliated companies had overpaid shared	2	Q. Mr. Seery, what did you do to
3	service fees to Highland, correct?	3	investigate whether or not there had been
4	A. Absolutely not.	4	overpayments of shared service fees by
5	Q. Are you not aware that Mr. Dondero	5	NexPoint to Highland?
6	contended that NexPoint, for example, had	6	MR. MORRIS: I'm just going to
7	overpaid Highland by many millions of dollars	7	caution the the questioner not to go
8	for shared service fees?	8	too far down this path. These are
9	A. I'm quite aware that Mr. Dondero	9	topics that are related to a completely
10	has fabricated a story as part of the	10	separate contested matter, actually
11	negotiations for a pot plan. In fact, he	11	(Simultaneous speaking.)
12	included it in one of the term sheets, to	12	MR. MORRIS: Okay. So I just
13	fabricate a claim about additional services.	13	okay, that's fine.
14	I'm also quite aware of other	14	MR. RUKAVINA: Yeah, I'm not
15	evidence that shows that's not the case.	15	trying to litigate that, it's
16	Q. Let's take this in pieces.	16	MR. MORRIS: Yep.
17	How much did Mr. Dondero contend	17	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: it's
18	shared services had been overpaid	18	relevant to this whole incident that
19	A. I don't recall	19	Mr. Seery is
20	Q what amount?	20	MR. MORRIS: I don't think so,
21	A. I don't recall the exact amount.	21	but
22	Q. More than 10 million?	22	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: is
23	A. I think he claimed 14, some number	23	MR. MORRIS: but go ahead, I'm
24	like that, but it doesn't have any connection	24	not directing him not to answer.
25	to reality.	25	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: I I'm not
	Page 224		Page 225
1	J. Seery	1	Page 225 J. Seery
1 2	<del>-</del>	1 2	- I
	J. Seery		J. Seery
2	J. Seery going to call him a liar like he's been	2	J. Seery Mr. Seery. You were aware of the dispute,
2 3	J. Seery going to call him a liar like he's been calling everybody else, so I'll be	2 3	J. Seery Mr. Seery. You were aware of the dispute, whether regardless of your belief as to
2 3 4	J. Seery going to call him a liar like he's been calling everybody else, so I'll be polite about it, but it is relevant	2 3 4	J. Seery Mr. Seery. You were aware of the dispute, whether regardless of your belief as to the bona fides of it, you were aware of an
2 3 4 5	J. Seery going to call him a liar like he's been calling everybody else, so I'll be polite about it, but it is relevant THE WITNESS: Well, the reason	2 3 4 5	J. Seery Mr. Seery. You were aware of the dispute, whether regardless of your belief as to the bona fides of it, you were aware of an actual dispute about whether NexPoint had
2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery going to call him a liar like he's been calling everybody else, so I'll be polite about it, but it is relevant THE WITNESS: Well, the reason for that is because I don't lie, and I	2 3 4 5 6	J. Seery Mr. Seery. You were aware of the dispute, whether regardless of your belief as to the bona fides of it, you were aware of an actual dispute about whether NexPoint had overpaid shared services fees, correct?
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1 J. Secry 2 NR. MORRIS: Objection, asked and 3 answered. 4 A. I I will concede that 5 Nr. Dondero claimed that shared services by 6 NexPoint were overpaid for. 7 Q. Okay. And will you also concede 6 that you disagree with that? 9 A. I don't need to concede that. I do 10 disagree with that. 11 Q. Okay. Hence, we have a dispute, 12 okay. 13 NR. MORRIS: Objection to the 14 form of the question. 15 Q. Mr. Seery, if you don't recall the 16 words that Ms. Hendrix said to you, how do 17 you know that whatever this edict was that 18 you have mentioned did not relate simply to 19 don't pay any more shared services because 10 they have been overpaid? 20 km. MORRIS: Objection to the 21 form of the question, 'ans' and 22 a. A. Again, I believe that it was 25 Ms. Hendrix. It could have been Mr. Klos.  10 J. Seery 21 notes was because they weren't paid. 22 A. Again, I believe that it was 23 said to you? 24 NR. MORRIS: Objection to the 25 concerned the notes was simp happenstance 26 of what happened, not because of what was 27 said to you? 28 NR. MORRIS: Objection to the 29 form of the question, asked and 30 answered. 31 A. The idea that you're calling me 4 of or of the question, asked and 4 NR. MORRIS: Objection to the 5 concerned the notes was simp happenstance 6 of what happened, not because of what was 7 said to you? 8 NR. MORRIS: Objection to the 8 form of the question, asked and 9 nr. Waterbouse's testimony from two days ago, 10 what happened, not because of what was 11 A. The idea that you're calling me 12 cagey is is insulting and rude, so you 13 should please withdraw that. No one's ever 14 called ne cagey, and I always an honest. 15 I said very specifically to 16 Mr. Rukavina how I heard what I heard, how I 17 came to understand it. I don't recall the 18 gpecific words or the exact time. It is 18 1, 2020 in excess of the anonist due, if	l	David 2006		D 00F
a maswered.  A. I — I will concade that  Nr. Dordero claimed that shared services by  Nr. Secordin were overpeid for.  O. Okay. And will you also concede  that you disagreed with that?  A. I don't need to concede that. I do  disagree with that.  O. Okay. Rence, we have a dispute,  okay.  O. Mr. Secry if you don't recall the  form of the question.  You have mentioned did not relate simply to  don't pay any more shared services because  they have been overpeid?  D. Secry in the secret that it was  Mr. MORRIS: Objection to the  form of the question, which were this edict was that  because they have been overpeid?  J. Secry in the secret that it was  Mr. MORRIS: Objection to the  form of the question, which we have the secret that was  Mr. MORRIS: Objection to the  form of the question, which we have the secret that the secret that was  J. Secry in the secret this delict was that  J. Secry in the secret this delict was that  J. Secry in the secret this delict was that  J. Secry in the secret this delict was that  J. Secry in the secret this delict was that  J. Secry in the secret this delict was that  J. Secry in the secret this delict was that  J. Secry in the secret this delict was that  J. Secry in the secret this delict was that  J. Secry in the secret this delict was that  J. Secry in the secret this delict was that  J. Secry in the secret this delict was that  J. Secry in the secret that the secre	2	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
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J. Seary  M. MCREIS: Objection to the  form of the question.  A. We we looked at the payments on  each of the notes, yes-  6 Q. And didy ow determine whether or  not the amounts paid in total prior to  8 December 31, 2020 exceeded the total amount  of the principal and interest on the minimum  principal and interest payments due on those  not be amounts paid in the rest payments due on those  not be amounts paid in the rest payments due on those  not be amounts paid in the rest payments due on those  not be amounts paid in the rest payments due on those  not be amounts paid in the rest payments due on those  not be amounts paid in the rest payments due on those  not be amounts paid in the rest payments due on the minimum  principal and interest payments due on those  11 notes  12 (Simultaneous speaking.)  13 A. I  14 Q outstanding?  15 A. Me certainly looked at that. I  16 don't believe that's the case for cach of  17 them, but I don't have a specified  18 recollection of how they each balance out.  19 Q. Did any of the loans have payments  10 Q. Did any of the loans have payments  20 that were amade that, in total, exceeded the  10 total amount of minimum principal and  21 interest payments due on the loans for the  22 number of years they had been outstanding?  23 A. One of them any have; I don't  24 A. One of them any have; I don't  25 recall. I don't recall specifically which  17 Mr. Morris talking or you, and I apologize  18 Mr. Morris talking or you, and I apologize  19 Mr. MORRIS: That would have  10 A. Mill read amount of minimum principal and  11 notes  12 Mr. MORRIS: That would have  13 A. Well. I'm answering your question.  14 (Simultaneous speaking.)  15 A. Well. I'm answering your question.  16 don't believe that the rely end  17 A. Well. The answering on any of the note  18 along the payment due of the payment due  19 MR. MORRIS: Objection to the  19 MR. M	l .	Page 230		Page 231
form of the question.  A. We - we looked at the payments on  cach of the notes, yes.  Q. And did you determine whether or not the amounts paid in total prior to Becenber 31, 200 exceeded the total amount of principal and interest payments due on those notes - control   Control	1	5	1	_
4   looked at the payment ledger. 5 each of the notes, yes. 6 Q. And did you determine whether or 7 not the amounts paid in total prior to 8 December 31, 2008 exceeded the total amount 9 due of principal and interest on the minimum 10 principal and interest payments due on those 11 cylindraneous speaking.) 12 (Simultaneous speaking.) 13 A. I 14 Q outstanding? 15 A. We certainly looked at that. I 16 don't believe that's the case for each of 17 them, but I don't have a specific 18 recollection of how they each balance out. 19 Q. Did any of the loans have payments 20 that were made that, in total, exceeded the 21 total amount of minimum principal and 22 interest payments due on the loans for the 23 number of years they had been outstanding? 24 A. One of them may have! I don't 25 recall. I don't recall specifically which 26 the note cases and therefore, you know, we 27 shouldn't be looking at at solvency. 28 Mr. MORRIS: That would have 29 MR. MORRIS: That would have 20 And so let me ask Mr. Seery, as the 21 One And so let me ask Mr. Seery, as the 22 olear that would have been me. 23 olyency has no bearing on any of the note 24 cases? 25 MR. MORRIS: Objection to the 26 form of the question. 26 MR. MORRIS: Objection to the 27 form of the question. 27 MR. MORRIS: Objection to the 28 of more trained and therefore 29 alone trained and therese of the seel claims, I 29 MR. MORRIS: Objection to the 20 form of the question. 20 A. When the the individual of the constructive fraud and therefore 20 control of the question. 21 A. With respect to these claims, I 22 think that the the allegations are pretty 23 clear that there is no agreement, That's nonseense. If 24 think that the the allegations are pretty 25 clear that there is no agreement, That's nonseense. If 26 think that the the allegations are pretty 27 clear the record of the constructive fraud and therese of a the think that the record of a the think that the principal amount in the time the forgiveness condition was agreed as the constructive	2	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	2	one.
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8 December 31, 2020 exceeded the total amount 9 due of principal and interest on the minimum 10 principal and interest payments due on those 11 notes 12	6	Q. And did you determine whether or	6	Q. And have you produced that payment
9   due of principal and interest on the minimum   10 principal and interest payments due on those   11 content   12	7	not the amounts paid in total prior to	7	ledger?
principal and interest payments due on those  notes —  (Simultaneous speaking.)  A. I —  Q. — outstanding?  A. We certainly looked at that. I that — that schemyledged to you or said something to you, admitting that the payment that was made in January of 2021 was a recollection of how they each balance out.  D. Did any of the loans have payments that was made in January of 2021 was a recollection of how they each balance out.  The payment towards the overall principal and not total amount of minimum principal and not that was a due at the end of 2020?  A. No, I don't believe I had discussion with amybody who claimed to remplex to them and that was due at the end of 2020?  A. No, I don't believe I had discussion with amybody who claimed to remplex to the payment towards the overall principal and not that was due at the end of 2020?  A. No, I don't believe I had discussion with amybody who claimed to remplex to the payment towards the overall principal and not that was due at the end of 2020?  A. No, II, do	8	December 31, 2020 exceeded the total amount	8	A. Yes.
11 notes 12 (Simultaneous speaking.) 13 A. I 14 Q outstanding? 15 A. We certainly looked at that. I 16 don't believe that's the case for each of 17 them, but I don't have a specific 18 recollection of how they each balance out. 19 Q. Did any of the loans have payments 20 that were made that, in total, exceeded the 21 total amount of minimum principal and 22 interest payments due on the loans for the 23 number of years they had been outstanding? 24 A. One of them may have; I don't 25 recall. I don't recall specifically which 26 for that, but somebody said something like 27 constructive fraud is not an issue in any of 28 the note cases and therefore, you know, we 29 shouldn't be looking at at solvency. 20 MR. MORRIS: That would have 21 MR. MORRIS: That would have 22 MR. MORRIS: That would have 23 MR. MORRIS: That would have 24 A. On a of the many have; I was the solvency has no bearing on any of the note cases? 21 A. Nith respect to these claims, I 22 think that the the allegations are pretty 23 clear that there is no agreement. That's nonsense. If 24 subsequent agreement. That's nonsense. If 25 contend and I apologize if I asked that, 26 but is there anyone from HCRE 26 that that acknowledged to you or said 28 that that acknowledged to you or said 29 that that acknowledged to you or said 20 that was an abrual myour subming up HCC - HCMS 20 that that acknowledged to you or said 20 that a something to you, admitting that the payment that was due at the end of 2020? 20 A. No, I don't believe I had 21 clouds with anybody who claimed to represent HCRE: which, as you said, had no employees. 21 J. Seery 22 Q. Mr Mr. Seery 23 A. Well, I'm answering your question. 24 Serier I couldn't tell if it was 25 cert in a sked that. 26 that that acknowledged to you or said 27 that was due at the end of 2020? 28 A. No, I don't believe I had 21 clouds with anybody who claimed to represent HCRE: which, as you said, had no employees. 29 Mr. Men I'm I'm anybody who claimed to represe	9	due of principal and interest on the minimum	9	MR. MORRIS: Yes, we have.
12   Simultaneous speaking.)   12   Decause I'm I'm maybe mixing up HC HKMS   14   0 outstanding?   14   But is there anyone from HCRE   15   A. We certainly looked at that. I   15   that that acknowledged to you or said   50   something to you, admitting that the payment   16   that was made in January of 2021 was a   payment total amount of minimum principal and   15   total amount of minimum principal and   16   total amount of minimum principal and   17   total amount of minimum principal and   18   total amount of minimum principal and   18   total amount of minimum principal and   19   total amount of minimum principal and   19   total amount of minimum principal and   19   mumber of years they had been outstanding?   24   A. One of them may have i don't   25   recall. I don't recall specifically which   26   Tot that, but somebody said something like   27   constructive fraud is not an issue in any of   28   the note cases and therefore, you know, we shouldn't be looking at at solvency.   7   MR. MORRIS: That would have   8   MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Was that you?   8   MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Was that you?   10   There is no claim for constructive   12   fraudulent transfer.   12   There is no claim for constructive   13   MD   MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ:   Move to   14   Strike.   15   MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ:   Move to   15   Story is bought, then we think it's clearly an actual fraud.   MO'   MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Move to   16   Story is bought, then we think it's clearly an actual fraud.   MO'   MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Move to   16   Story is bought, then we think it's clearly an actual fraud.   MO'   MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Move to   16   Story is bought, then we think it's clearly an actual fraud.   MO'   MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Move to   16   Story is bought, then we think it's clearly an actual fraud.   MO'   MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Move to   16   Story is bought, then we think it's clearly an actual fraud.   MO'   MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Move to   16   Story is bought, then we think it occurrence   MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Move to	10	principal and interest payments due on those	10	Q. Is there anyone from HCRE that you
13 A. I 14 Q outstanding? 15 A. We certainly looked at that. I 16 don't believe that's the case for each of 17 them, but I don't have a specific 18 recollection of how they each balance out. 19 Q. Did any of the loans have payments 20 that were made that, in total, exceeded the 21 total amount of minimum principal and 22 interest payments due on the loans for the 23 number of years they had been outstanding? 24 A. One of them may have; I don't 25 recall. I don't recall specifically which 26 for that, but somebody said something like 27 constructive fraud is not an issue in any of 28 shouldn't be looking at at solvency. 29 MR. MORRIS: That would have 20 MR. MORRIS: that would have been me. 21 There is no claim for constructive 22 fraudulent transfer. 23 INS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: 24 O. And so let me ask Mr. Seery, as the 25 solvency has no bearing on any of the note 26 cases? 27 MR. MORRIS: Objection to the 28 cases? 28 MR. MORRIS: Objection to the 29 form of the question. 20 A. With respect to these claims, I 21 think that the the allegations are pretty 29 clear that there is no agreement, there's no 20 that were made that, in total, exceeded the 21 that was made in January of 2021 was a 22 payment towards the overall principal and not 23 that was made in January of 2021 was a 24 payment towards the overall principal and not 25 the that was due at the end of 2020? 26 A. No, I don't believe I had 27 discussion with anybody who claimed to 28 represent HCRE; which, as you said, had no 29 represent HCRE; which, as you said, had no 29 represent HCRE; which, as you said, had no 21 making or you, and I apologize 29 Q. Mar Mr. Seery 20 Q. Mr Mr. Seery 31 J. Seery 32 J. Seery 33 A. Well, I'm answering your question. 34 (Simultaneous speaking.) 35 MR. MORRIS: That would have 36 MR. MORRIS: That would have 37 A. So when if, in some world, that 38 story is bought, then we think it's clearly 39 an actual fraud. 30 (b) (6) witness, for HCM. is it your position 39 (b) (6) witness for HCM. is it yo	11	notes	11	contend and I apologize if I asked that,
14	12	(Simultaneous speaking.)	12	because I'm I'm maybe mixing up HC HCMS
15 A. We certainly looked at that. I 16 don't believe that's the case for each of 17 them, but I don't have a specific 18 recollection of how they each balance out. 19 Q. Did any of the loans have payments 20 that were made that, in total, exceeded the 21 total amount of minimum principal and 22 interest payments due on the loans for the 23 number of years they had been outstanding? 24 A. One of them may have: I don't 25 recall. I don't recall specifically which 26 recall. I don't recall specifically which 27 Mr. Morris talking or you, and I apologize 28 for that, but somebody said something like 29 constructive fraud is not an issue in any of 29 the note cases and therefore, you know, we 29 shouldn't be looking at at solvenor, 29 Mr. MCRRIS: that would have 20 Mr. MCRRIS: that would have been me. 21 There is no claim for constructive 22 fraudulent transfer. 23 month of the question. 24 A. On the may have: I don't 25 recall. I don't recall specifically which 26 the note cases and therefore, you know, we 27 solvendy have been me. 28 MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Was that you? 29 MR. MCRRIS: that would have 30 MR. MCRRIS: that would have been me. 31 There is no claim for constructive 32 fraudulent transfer. 33 Mr. Seery, As HCM's 30(b)(6) witness for HCM, is it your position 34 MR. MCRRIS: Objection to the 35 form of the question. 36 MR. MCRRIS: Objection to the 36 form of the question. 37 A. With respect to these claims, I 38 MR. MCRRIS: Objection to the 39 form of the question. 30 MR. MCRRIS: Objection to the 30 form of the question. 31 A. With respect to these claims, I 32 clart that there is no agreement, there's no 34 something to you, and it han awa a payment towards the overall principal and not 36 the payment that was due at the end of 2020? 30 A. No, I don't believe I had 31 discussion with anybody who claimed to 32 represent HCRE; which, as you said, had no 33 discussion with anybody who claimed to 34 constructive fraw have: I don't 35 J. Seery 36 J. Mc. MCRRIS: HCRE; which, as You said. 36 MR	13	A. I	13	and HCRE.
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	D 024		D 025
1	J. Seery	1	Page 235 J. Seery
2	a 30(b)(6) topic, and I object to the	2	we we may have an issue about
3	extent it calls for a legal conclusion.	3	picking up this deposition. Let me
4	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: I'm I'm	4	let me ask another question.
5	just can you read it back and have	5	Q. Do you have a solvency analysis
6	the witness answer.	6	done for these note cases?
7	MR. MORRIS: Okay.	7	A. Not for these note cases, no.
8	(As read by the reporter):	8	0. And are you prepared to explain
9	"QUESTION: And therefore, is it	9	right now, in this deposition, how what
10	also your position, as the 30(b)(6)	10	Highland's solvency was at any of the time
11	witness for HCM, that whether Highland	11	periods, either when the notes were made or
12	was or was not solvent at the time the	12	when the alleged agreement regarding
13	notes were made or at the time the	13	
14		14	forgiveness potential forgiveness of the notes was entered into?
	forgiveness condition was agreed upon,		
15	that the solvency of Highland is	15	Are you prepared today to tell us
16	irrelevant to those issues?"	16	what you think about Highland's solvency and
17	A. I I don't think it's irrelevant.	17	why?
18	It's not a precondition to a case for an	18	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
19	actual fraud. But when these things are done	19	form of the question.
20	in the face of solve insolvency, when	20	A. I I believe I already did, but I
21	they're when when the supposed	21	can do it again, if you'd like. Mr. Rukavina
22	agreements are done on the eve or after	22	asked me very specific questions about where
23	bankruptcy, that sure adds to the badges of	23	I thought solvency was, and I gave my very
24	fraud.	24	specific answers.
25	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Then, John,	25	Q. For each for the dates of each
	Page 236		Page 237
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	J. Seery of each of the notes and when the	2	J. Seery Redeemer gets a very large arbitration award
2 3	J. Seery of each of the notes and when the forgiveness condition arose, what is your	2 3	J. Seery Redeemer gets a very large arbitration award that it's about to win and Highland files for
2 3 4	J. Seery of each of the notes and when the	2 3 4	J. Seery Redeemer gets a very large arbitration award that it's about to win and Highland files for bankruptcy.
2 3 4 5	J. Seery of each of the notes and when the forgiveness condition arose, what is your answer as to whether Highland was solvent and why?	2 3 4 5	J. Seery Redeemer gets a very large arbitration award that it's about to win and Highland files for bankruptcy.  I don't the the idea that
2 3 4	J. Seery  of each of the notes and when the forgiveness condition arose, what is your answer as to whether Highland was solvent and why?  MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	2 3 4	J. Seery Redeemer gets a very large arbitration award that it's about to win and Highland files for bankruptcy.  I don't the the idea that there are these subsequent agreements, we
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1	Page 238 J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	A. Yes.	2	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
3	Q. Where are where can we find	3	form of the question, asked and
4	them?	4	answered, mischaracterizes the
5	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the	5	testimony. It calls for a legal
6	form of the question.	6	conclusion.
7	A. They're they're in the amended	7	A. It it's in my opinion, it's
8	complaint.	8	the law, and our position is it's the law,
9	Q. No, no, no, where where do the	9	that when a limited partner takes over the
10	duties come from? What are the duties based	10	operation and running of the partnership and
11	on?	11	takes on those duties, they step into the
12	A. With respect to both Dugaboy and	12	role of a general partner.
13	Nancy Dondero, Nancy Dondero is the trustee	13	And that is the we don't believe
14	of Dugaboy. Dugaboy was a limited partner.	14	this agreement exists, but if it were to
15	Limited partners are not permitted to run the	15	somehow metastasize into something of an
16	affairs of the partnership.	16	agreement, then clearly we believe that it
17	She has testified that she made	17	breached the fiduciary duties that those
			persons and entities who took on those duties
18	agreements on behalf of Highland. So she	18   19	
19	stepped into the role of a general partner,		would have to the partnership.
20	as did Dugaboy. Her testimony was very clear	20	Q. Okay. And I'm I'm just I'm
21	on these points, that she cut the agreements	21	just trying to understand your testimony.
22	on behalf of Highland.	22	You're talking about duties under
23	Q. Okay. So it is are you saying	23	the the HCM fourth amended limited
24	that it is the HCMLP partnership agreement	24	partnership agreement?
25	that gives rise to the fiduciary duties?	25	MR. MORRIS: Objection to the
1	Page 240	_	Page 241
		1 1	
2	J. Seery  form of the question mischaracterizes	1 2	J. Seery  O. Is there anything other than law
2	form of the question, mischaracterizes	2	Q. Is there anything other than law,
3	form of the question, mischaracterizes the testimony.	2 3	Q. Is there anything other than law, generally, and the fourth amended limited
3 4	form of the question, mischaracterizes the testimony.  A. The duties are under Delaware law	2 3 4	Q. Is there anything other than law, generally, and the fourth amended limited partnership agreement of Highland Capital
3 4 5	form of the question, mischaracterizes the testimony.  A. The duties are under Delaware law related to partnerships.	2 3 4 5	Q. Is there anything other than law, generally, and the fourth amended limited partnership agreement of Highland Capital Management that gives rise to the duties that
3 4 5 6	form of the question, mischaracterizes the testimony.  A. The duties are under Delaware law related to partnerships.  Q. Yes. And the partnership duties	2 3 4 5 6	Q. Is there anything other than law, generally, and the fourth amended limited partnership agreement of Highland Capital Management that gives rise to the duties that you are contending Dugaboy breached and Nancy
3 4 5 6 7	form of the question, mischaracterizes the testimony.  A. The duties are under Delaware law related to partnerships.  Q. Yes. And the partnership duties that you're talking about are the HCMLP	2 3 4 5 6 7	Q. Is there anything other than law, generally, and the fourth amended limited partnership agreement of Highland Capital Management that gives rise to the duties that you are contending Dugaboy breached and Nancy Dondero and Jim Dondero allegedly aided in
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Page 242 Page 243 1 J. Seery 1 J. Seery 2 form of the question, asked and 2 trustee of Dugaboy took a management step? 3 3 Nancy Dondero and Jim Dondero claim answered. 4 that Nancy Dondero and Dugaboy entered into I -- I believe I gave a pretty 4 5 5 an agreement on behalf of the partnership and good, concise summary, but is there more that 6 you want to know? 6 gave away 63 million -- or maybe that's the 7 When it -- our position is that 7 total amount of the notes, but some 50 8 when a limited partner takes over the million-ish amount of notes for virtually 9 management or any of the management roles of 9 nothing - and in most instances could 10 the partnership and enters into an agreement 10 actually be nothing - with no investigation, on behalf of the partnership, they stepped 11 no discussion, no analysis and really no 11 12 into the general partner role. 12 authority. 13 13 But they -- they assert that that When they're in the general partner 14 14 role they have fiduciary duties to the was the agreement. And without any 15 partnership and all of the partners. When 15 consideration received by this entity, 16 they breach those duties, which we argue is 16 nothing, they claim that they did this. 17 the case if this supposed agreement were 17 Now we don't -- we don't believe 18 actually something, then they should be 18 this agreement exists, again, to be clear. 19 liable for the damages caused by those 19 We think it's fabricated. We think that 20 breaches. 20 that's really beyond any kind of dispute. We You've said, a couple times now, if think you all know that too, but we'll play 21 Ο. 21 22 a limited partner steps in and manages the 22 along. 23 partnership. 23 Is there any other action that you 24 24 Can you tell me every way in which contend is management that you contend 25 25 you contend Dugaboy or Nancy Dondero as the Dugaboy or Nancy undertook with respect to Page 244 Page 245 1 J. Seery 1 J. Seery 2 Highland? 2 -- the full implications of what Α. 3 No. Taking control of the payment 3 they are arguing. 4 4 to an affiliate of the general partner for no Okay. Other than the things that 5 consideration and claiming that you are able 5 you have testified to in the last ten or 6 to do that, we think that is sufficient. fifteen minutes, there are no other acts of 6 7 7 MO\* MR. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Move to supposed management that you contend Dugaboy 8 strike everything after "No." 8 or Nancy undertook that form the basis for 9 Let me just get it clear. There is 9 the breach of fiduciary duty claims, correct? 10 no other action, other than entering into 10 MR. MORRIS: Objection to the 11 this agreement, that you contend is 11 form of the question. 12 management by Dugaboy or Nancy Dondero; is 12 I -- I think I've touched on all of 13 13 them. that correct? 14 No, that's not correct. It's 14 Okay. Thank you. Okay. I'm going 15 15 to show you what has been marked as -everything around the supposed agreement. 16 So, so it -- it can't be cabined to just what premarked as Exhibit 109. 16 17 17 the supposed agreement is, it's all of the Is this a document that you have other -- lack of -- of -- if it were a real 18 18 seen before? 19 agreement, the lack of any sort of care, the 19 I -- I believe I have, but you're 20 lack of any sort of loyalty, it all permeates 20 literally just showing me a slice of the 21 from this supposed agreement --21 heading. 22 (Simultaneous speaking.) 22 I know. It's the -- it's the 23 -- these folks haven't thought 23 Notice of Filing of Debtor's Amended Α. 24 through --24 Schedules, and then annexed to it - let me 25 MR. MORRIS: Just let him finish. 25 get to that - are the Global Notes and

	Page 246		Dama 247
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery
2	Statement of Limitations, Methods and	2	Q. Okay. But, generally, if you
3	Disclaimers Regarding Debtor's Amended	3	signed a declaration under penalty of perjury
4	Schedules of Assets and Liabilities.	4	for non-individual debtors that was then
5	Is that a document that you have	5	annexed to a filing, you would have looked
6	seen before?	6	through the filing and assured yourself that
7	A. I I don't recall it	7	it was correct, to the best of your knowledge
8	specifically.	8	and belief?
9	Q. Well, let me ask a different way.	9	A. I would have either looked through
10	In this was filed in September of 2020.	10	the filing or I would have reviewed it with
11	What was your role with respect to	11	my team, whomever prepared it.
12	filings of the debtor in September of 2020?	12	Q. And so as you sit here today, do
13	A. Depending on the filing, I executed	13	you have any reason to believe that there are
14	many of them. So if I executed this one,	14	inaccuracies in docket 1082?
15	please let me know.	15	MR. MORRIS: Do you want to
16	I certainly was around and	16	give do you need to read the
17	consulted with respect to all the filings. I	17	document?
18	was the CEO of the company.	18	A. I have no
19	That's my signature, so I've seen	19	Q. Yeah. And I and I emailed it to
20	this.	20	John, so if you want to sit down and take a
21	Q. Okay, okay.	21	look at it, please
22	(Simultaneous speaking.)	22	(Simultaneous speaking.)
23	A. I may not have seen the I don't	23	A. No, I I don't need to review it.
24	know if I I just don't recall the, the	24	No one's brought anything to my
25	the piece at the top.	25	attention. I don't I have no reason to
	Dama 240		Dama 240
1	Page 248 J. Seery	1	Page 249 J. Seery
1 2	<del>-</del>	1 2	J. Seery
1	J. Seery		- I
2	J. Seery believe it wasn't accurate at the time. MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Okay. Thank	2	J. Seery you.
2 3	J. Seery believe it wasn't accurate at the time.	2 3	J. Seery you. EXAMINATION
2 3 4	J. Seery believe it wasn't accurate at the time.  MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Okay. Thank you.	2 3 4	J. Seery you. EXAMINATION BY MR. RUKAVINA:
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	J. Seery believe it wasn't accurate at the time.  MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Okay. Thank you.  Okay. Why don't we take a few minutes and I'm going to have a look at my notes and and I'll have a better idea of how much longer I have then.  VIDEO TECHNICIAN: The time is 6:36. We're going off the record.  (Recess taken.)  VIDEO TECHNICIAN: The time is 6:41. We're back on the record.  MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Okay. Thank you.  Thank you very much, Mr. Seery. I'm going to pass back to whomever might want to ask you anything more.  MR. RUKAVINA: Well, I think Mr. Horn is busy. I have one more question for you, Mr. Seery.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	you.  EXAMINATION BY MR. RUKAVINA:  Q. My only question was as follows: When you were answering counsel's questions, you mentioned something about a payment ledger on the notes.  Do you recall that?  A. Not a specific I would have looked at a payment ledger. I don't have a I'm not thinking of one particular payment ledger.  The one that that was one of the exhibits  Q. That's where I'm going A is a type of payment ledger.  That one, it looks like it was that's actually the actual schedule of payment, because it shows as if the payments had made it doesn't show what's been made,
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	J. Seery believe it wasn't accurate at the time.  MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Okay. Thank you.  Okay. Why don't we take a few minutes and I'm going to have a look at my notes and and I'll have a better idea of how much longer I have then.  VIDEO TECHNICIAN: The time is 6:36. We're going off the record.  (Recess taken.)  VIDEO TECHNICIAN: The time is 6:41. We're back on the record.  MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Okay. Thank you.  Thank you very much, Mr. Seery. I'm going to pass back to whomever might want to ask you anything more.  MR. RUKAVINA: Well, I think Mr. Horn is busy. I have one more question for you, Mr. Seery.  MR. HORN: I I have no	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	you.  EXAMINATION  BY MR. RUKAVINA:  Q. My only question was as follows: When you were answering counsel's questions, you mentioned something about a payment ledger on the notes.  Do you recall that?  A. Not a specific I would have looked at a payment ledger. I don't have a I'm not thinking of one particular payment ledger.  The one that that was one of the exhibits Q. That's where I'm going A is a type of payment ledger.  That one, it looks like it was that's actually the actual schedule of payment, because it shows as if the payments had made it doesn't show what's been made, but it actually shows you the schedule of
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	D. Seery  believe it wasn't accurate at the time.  MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Okay. Thank  you.  Okay. Why don't we take a few  minutes and I'm going to have a look at  my notes and and I'll have a better  idea of how much longer I have then.  VIDEO TECHNICIAN: The time is  6:36. We're going off the record.  (Recess taken.)  VIDEO TECHNICIAN: The time is  6:41. We're back on the record.  MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Okay. Thank  you.  Thank you very much, Mr. Seery.  I'm going to pass back to whomever might  want to ask you anything more.  MR. RUKAVINA: Well, I think  Mr. Horn is busy. I have one more  question for you, Mr. Seery.  MR. HORN: I I have no  questions, so I'll defer to Davor if he	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	you.  EXAMINATION BY MR. RUKAVINA:  Q. My only question was as follows: When you were answering counsel's questions, you mentioned something about a payment ledger on the notes.  Do you recall that?  A. Not a specific I would have looked at a payment ledger. I don't have a I'm not thinking of one particular payment ledger.  The one that that was one of the exhibits  Q. That's where I'm going A is a type of payment ledger.  That one, it looks like it was that's actually the actual schedule of payment, because it shows as if the payments had made it doesn't show what's been made, but it actually shows you the schedule of all the way to maturity, I believe, and so

	Page 250		Page	251
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery	
2	A. Okay.	2	would be willing to please check to see	
3	Q. For the \$30.7 million note, to the	3	what the native of this Exhibit 7 is and	
4	best of your knowledge, did the debtor	4	please send it to me, along with any	
5	maintain a payment ledger showing any	5	metadata.	
6	historical payments on that \$30.7 million	6	MR. MORRIS: Email that exhibit	
7	note?	7	to me	
8	A. Yes, we would have we would	8	MR. RUKAVINA: I will.	
9	have.	9	MR. MORRIS: and I'll be able	
10	Q. And to the best of your knowledge,	10	to do that, but I do know that if you	
11	would that have been produced in this	11	look I'm certain it was in one of	
12	litigation?	12	the supplemental productions.	
13	A. Yes.	13	MR. RUKAVINA: Yes, we received	
14	Q. Okay. To the best of your	14	it recently.	
15	knowledge, is Exhibit 7 that or is Exhibit 7	15	MR. MORRIS: Right. So in one of	
16	something else?	16	the supplemental productions I know	
17	A. I think Exhibit 7 is something	17	that we produced schedules showing all	
18	else. It's just because I hadn't seen this	18	payments made against all notes at	
19	one. It may be that this was I think	19	issue, and I think we even gave you the	
20	it's I think it's something else.	20	backup with the bank statements, you	
21	RQ* MR. RUKAVINA: Okay. Mr. Morris,	21	know, fully redacted yeah.	
22	I'll just ask the debtor, I've I've	22	MR. MORRIS: to show only the	
23	asked and we only got this in PDF,	23	payments	
24	there's no metadata.	24	MR. RUKAVINA: Let's talk	
25	I would just ask if the debtor	25	offline	
	Page 252		Page	253
1	J. Seery	1	J. Seery	
2	(Simultaneous speaking.)	2	Q. But to your knowledge, were the	
3	MR. MORRIS: you've got all of	3	native files such as spreadsheets and emails	
4	that.	4	provided to counsel to produce them, such	
5	MR. RUKAVINA: Let's talk	5	that we should be able to see the Word	
6	offline, because I'm not sure that I	6	versions of the notes, any emails about the	
7	agree we have that	7	notes and about the payments, so	
8	MR. MORRIS: Yeah.	8	MR. MORRIS: You you've got	
9	MR. RUKAVINA: but if the	9	that. That's not for this witness. We	
10	debtors produced it, then we'll	10	can talk about that offline. He	
11	MR. MORRIS: I know I instructed	11	doesn't know anything about like the	
12	my team to produce it, so I I'm	12	actual	
13	MR. RUKAVINA: Okay.	13	Q. Well, let let me just ask him.	
14	MR. MORRIS: I'm pretty	14	Did he provide the native files to	
15	confident they did what I asked.	15	counsel?	
16	MR. RUKAVINA: That was all I	16	A. I'm not quite sure what you mean by	
17	had. Thank you, sir.	17	native files, but counsel had access to we	
		18	did full had access to the systems, and we	
18	THE WITNESS: Thank you.		did full data conice of the greetens and	
18 19	THE WITNESS: Thank you.  MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Okay. Let me	19	did full data review of the systems and	
l		19 20	produced everything responsive.	
19	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Okay. Let me		<del>-</del>	
19 20	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Okay. Let me follow up with that with the	20	produced everything responsive.	
19 20 21	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Okay. Let me follow up with that with the witness. And then if it's really a	20 21	produced everything responsive.  So I'm not sure exactly what you	
19 20 21 22	MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Okay. Let me follow up with that with the witness. And then if it's really a conversation with counsel, we could	20 21 22	produced everything responsive.  So I'm not sure exactly what you mean by that, but but certainly counsel	

```
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                                                                                                      Page 255
 1
                      J. Seery
                                                        1
                                                                              J. Seery
    files means a document, if it's in Excel,
                                                        2
 2
                                                            searching?
 3
    providing it in Excel; or if it's in email,
                                                        3
                                                                Α.
                                                                      At Pachulski? I don't -- I should
    providing it as a -- in a -- in email format,
                                                            know, but I worked mostly through John.
                                                        4
 5
                                                        5
    a PST format or something that will show the
                                                                      Okay. And then what about the
 6
     metadata; or if it's a Word document, in --
                                                        б
                                                            non-lawyers; who were the non-lawyers who
7
     in Word, with its properties showing.
                                                        7
                                                            worked on collecting materials responsive to
 8
               That's -- that's what I mean. Do
                                                        8
                                                            the discovery requests?
9
    you know if that was done?
                                                        9
                                                                      I believe -- at third parties or
10
               Counsel certainly had access to all
                                                       10
                                                            at --
     of that. We didn't just PDF things and send
                                                       11
                                                                       (Simultaneous speaking.)
11
12
     them to counsel. It was done electronically.
                                                       12
                                                                       -- you just mentioned DSI or I
                                                                Q.
13
     So anything on the system responsive was --
                                                       13
                                                            mean --
14
    was accessible.
                                                       14
                                                                Α.
                                                                      DSI --
15
               Okay. And just who is the person
                                                       15
                                                                Q.
                                                                       -- anyone other than the lawyer --
16
     who conducted the searches to respond to
                                                       16
                                                            outside lawyers.
17
    discovery requests?
                                                       17
                                                                       Yeah, DSI. The outside firm, ISI.
18
               It would have been through the
                                                       18
                                                            I don't know if Robert Half was involved in
19
     Pachulski firm, you know, working in -- with
                                                       19
                                                            some of this production as well. He's been
20
     outside -- either DSI or one of the outside
                                                       2.0
    providers, to go through and -- and find
21
                                                       21
                                                                      MR. MORRIS: Robert Half does
22
     certain -- whatever the terms they came up
                                                       22
                                                                document review.
23
     with to find the data.
                                                       23
                                                                       -- the payroll for a long time now
24
              And do you know who the actual
                                                       24
                                                            during this case.
                                                       25
25
     people were that -- that did the -- the
                                                                      MR. MORRIS: They do -- they do
                                               Page 256
                                                                                                      Page 257
1
                      J. Seery
                                                        1
                                                                          J. Seery
 2
         the document review.
                                                        2
                                                            probably five different ways in
 3
               I mean, I could just -- I could
                                                        3
                                                            interrogatories, in emails, if you
 4
                                                        4
         just represent to you that -- that we
                                                            actually think there's something out
 5
         came up with search terms, my firm ran
                                                        5
                                                            there, instead of just fishing, you
 6
         the searches. There may have been
                                                            should let me know if you think that
7
                                                        7
         certain financial data that we had to get
                                                            there's --
8
         from DSI, but we produced whatever came
                                                                  MR. RUKAVINA: Oh, oh, no, and I
9
         up with the search terms to -- to Robert
                                                        9
                                                            do think --
10
         Half.
                                                       10
                                                                  MR. MORRIS: Yeah, I mean --
11
               They -- they did their review, they
                                                       11
                                                                   (Simultaneous speaking.)
12
         sent the documents to us. We did a
                                                       12
                                                                  MR. MORRIS: I've asked so many
13
                                                       13
         little quality control and we produced
                                                            times and -- and I --
14
                                                       14
                                                                  MR. RUKAVINA: There's no --
         it.
                                                            there's no need to have this on the
15
                                                       15
         Ο.
               Okay. And are -- are you
     confident, Mr. Seery, that you have looked
                                                       16
                                                            record --
16
17
     for and produced whatever documents there
                                                       17
                                                                  MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Yeah, and
     are that concern the -- the loan payments due
                                                            Mr. Seery mentioned in -- in the course
18
                                                       18
19
     and made at the end of 2020, beginning of
                                                       19
                                                            of the examination that they had not
20
                                                       20
                                                            looked at the actual transfer
21
               I -- I am. It was done in the
                                                       21
                                                            documents, the -- I think the -- if
22
     same -- same manner that -- that Mr. Morris
                                                       22
                                                            there was a wire or an ACH, to see if
23
     just described.
                                                       23
                                                            there were notations on them and
               MR. MORRIS: Yeah. And I would
24
                                                       24
                                                            that --
25
         again encourage you guys -- I've asked
                                                       25
                                                                  MR. MORRIS: He said he didn't.
```

```
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                                                                                                              Page 259
 1
                          J. Seery
                                                            1
                                                                                    J. Seery
                  THE WITNESS: I said I didn't.
                                                            2
                                                                             VIDEO TECHNICIAN: The time is
 2
 3
                                                            3
                                                                       6:49. This concludes today's
                  MR. MORRIS: He said he didn't.
                                                                       deposition, Thursday, October 21, 2021.
                  THE WITNESS: I said I didn't.
 4
 5
     BY MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ:
 6
            Q.
                  Well, do you know if anybody did?
                                                            7
 7
                  I don't know, but certainly that's
                                                            8
 8
       something that accounting would see rather
                                                            9
 9
       easily.
                                                           10
                                                                                , do hereby certify under
10
     RO*
                  MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Okay. So I
                                                                penalty of perjury that I have read the foregoing
                                                           11
            would like confirmation that that was
11
                                                           12
                                                                transcript of my deposition taken on
12
            looked for, and -- and the same as I
                                                           13
                                                                that I have made such corrections as appear noted
13
            requested previously, the Word versions
                                                                herein in ink, initialed by me; that my testimony as
                                                           14
            of -- of the notes.
14
                                                           15
                                                                contained herein, as corrected, is true and correct.
15
                  MR. MORRIS: Okay.
                                                           16
16
                  THE WITNESS: I, I -- I think
                                                                DATED this _____ day of ______, 20
                                                           17
17
            that the materials that Mr. Morris
                                                           18
            described has all that with bank
18
                                                           19
19
            statements.
                                                           20
2.0
                  MR. MORRIS: It's okay, thank
                                                           21
21
            V011.
                                                           22
22
                  Are we done?
23
                  MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Thank you.
                                                           23
                                                                               JAMES P. SEERY, JR.
24
                  MR. MORRIS: Yep.
                                                           24
25
                  MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ: Yes.
                                                           25
                                                  Page 260
                                                                                                              Page 261
1
                                                            1
                                                            2
                                                                -----I N D E X-----
2
              CERTIFICATE
                                                            3
                                                                WITNESS
                                                                              EXAMINATION BY
3
                                                                             MR. RUKAVINA
                                                                                                    6, 249
4
    STATE OF NEW YORK
                                                                SEERY, JR.
                                                            5
                                                                                                  160, 252
                                                                             MS. DEITSCH-PEREZ
                                                            6
6
    COUNTY OF NEW YORK
                                                               Directions: 197
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                                                               Motions: 172, 185, 205, 233, 244
8
               I, MARIANNE WITKOWSKI-SMITH, a Notary
                                                            9
9
          Public within and for the State of New York,
                                                           10
                                                                ----- PRODUCTION REQUESTS -----
                                                           11
                                                                PAGE: 250 Native Exhibit 7 and metadata.
10
          do hereby certify:
                                                                      258 Transfer documents notations and
                                                           12
11
               That JAMES P. SEERY, JR., the witness
                                                                           Word versions of notes.
          whose deposition is hereinbefore set forth,
12
                                                           1.3
          was duly sworn by me and that such deposition
13
                                                           14
                                                           15
                                                                -----EXHIBITS-----
14
          is a true record of the testimony given by
                                                               EXHIBIT
                                                           16
                                                                                                   PAGE LINE
15
          the witness.
                                                               Exhibit 1
                                                           17
16
               I further certify that I am not
                                                                Notice of Deposition
17
          related to any of the parties to this action
                                                           18
                                                                                                         20
18
          by blood or marriage, and that I am in no
                                                               Exhibit 2
                                                                Notice of Deposition
19
          way interested in the outcome of this
                                                               30(b)(6)
20
          matter.
                                                           21 Exhibit 3
21
               IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto
                                                                Email Chain
          set my hand this 22nd day of October, 2021.
22
                                                           22 Re: HCMLP Roles
                                                                                                         20
                                                           23 Exhibit 4
23
                                                                Seery Declaration in Support of
24
                                                               Motion for TRO
                                                                                                     43
25
                          MARIANNE WITKOWSKI-SMITH
                                                           25
                                                                          (Continued on Next Page)
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1				Page 262	1	Page 263
2	EXHIBITS(Cont'd)					
3	EXHIBIT	PAGE				Case Name:
4	Exhibit 5				3	Deposition Date:
	Promissory Note				4	Deponent:
5	Dated May 31, 2017	55	12		5	Pg. No. Now Reads Should Read Reason
6	Exhibit 6				6	
	Correspondence					
7	Dated January 7, 2021	69	16		7	
8	Exhibit 7				8	
	Loan Document				9	
9	D-NNL-029141	99	12		10	
10	Exhibit 8				11	
	Correspondence					
11	Dated January 15, 2021	107	4		12	
12	Exhibit 9				13	
	Amended and Restated				14	
13	Shared Services Agreement	112	22			
14	Exhibit 10				15	
Ι.	Email Chain				16	
15	D-NNL-007578 - D-NNL-007579	148	11		17	
16	Exhibit 11				18	
l	Email Chain				19	
17	D-NNL-028514 - D-NNL-028515	150	3			
18	* * *				20	
19	PREMARKED					
1	EXHIBITS	PAGE	LINE		21	Signature of Deponent
20	(Not Provided to Reporter)	0.45	1.0		22	SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN BEFORE ME
21	Exhibit 109	245				
22	Exhibit 110	206	23		23	THIS DAY OF, 2021.
23	Exhibit 111	196	8		24	
24 25	Exhibit 112	213	23		25	(Notary Public) MY COMMISSION EXPIRES:

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**wrote** 197:8,10,18,22 198:4

### Υ

**Yang** 176:5,22 177:20

year 19:2 65:17 163:15 164:13,14 168:8,15 169:13,20 170:12 171:16 172:3, 4,8 204:2 217:2

year-and-a-half 187:15

years 22:20 54:4 57:11 60:21 62:12 88:7 138:16 164:14 165:25 167:3,19,23 176:18 178:2 201:24 229:20 230:23 236:20

yesterday 108:17 119:25

**York** 8:6 10:23,24 11:5 176:23

### Ζ

**Ziehl** 5:20

**Zoom** 27:10 74:9,14, 21 112:17

# Exhibit B

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Page 1
 1
                    McGovern - 11-9-2021
 2
             IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
               FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
                          DALLAS DIVISION
 4
     In re:
 5
     HIGHLAND CAPITAL
                                         Case No.
                                       19-34054 L.P.
     MANAGEMENT, LP,
 6
                                       Chapter 11
               Debtor,
 7
     HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT,
 8
     LP,
               Plaintiff,
                                     ) Adversary No.
                                     ) 21-03003-sqi
10
          vs.
11
  JAMES D. DONDERO,
12
               Defendant.
13
14
15
16
17
                   REMOTE DEPOSITION OF
18
                       BRUCE McGOVERN
19
                       Houston, Texas
20
            Tuesday, 9th day of November, 2021
21
22
23
     Reported by:
24
     Daniel J. Skur, Notary Public and CSR
25
     Job No. 202067
```

			_	
1	McGovern - 11-9-2021	Page 2	1	Page 3 McGovern - 11-9-2021
2			2	APPEARANCES:
3			3	Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones
4			4	Attorney(s) for Debtor
5			5	780 Third Avenue
6			6	New York, New York 10017
	01) de 15 Marches 2001			
7	9th day of November, 2021		7	By: John Morris, Esq.
8	10:01 a.m 10:34 a.m.		8	
9			9	
10			10	
11	Remote Deposition of BRUCE McGOVERN,		11	
12	located in Houston, Texas, before Daniel J.		12	Stinson
13	Skur, Notary Public and Certified Shorthand		13	Attorney(s)for James Dondero, HCMS
14	Reporter in and for the State of Texas		14	and HCRE
15	located in Waxahachie, Texas.		15	3102 Oak Lawn Avenue
16			16	Dallas, Texas 75219
17			17	By: Michael Aigen, Esq.
18			18	
19			19	
20			20	
21			21	
22			22	ALSO PRESENT:
23			23	La Asia Canty, Paralegal
24			24	
25			25	Haley Winograd
25			25	
		Page 4		Page 5
1	McGovern - 11-9-2021		1	McGovern - 11-9-2021
2			2	PROCEEDINGS
3	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED		3	REMOTE ORAL DEPOSITION OF
4	by and between the attorneys for the respective		4	BRUCE McGOVERN
5	parties herein, that filing and sealing be and		5	(REPORTER NOTE: This deposition is
6	the same are hereby waived.		6	being conducted remotely in accordance with
7	IT IS FURTHER STIPULATED AND AGREED		7	the Current Emergency Order regarding the
8	that all objections, except as to the form of		8	COVID-19 State of Disaster.
9	the question, shall be reserved to the		9	Today's date is the 9th day of
10	time of the trial.		10	November, 2021. The time is 10:01 a.m.
11	IT IS FURTHER STIPULATED AND AGREED		11	Daylight Savings Time. The witness is
12	that the within deposition may be sworn to and		12	located in Houston, Texas.)
13	signed before any officer authorized to		13	BRUCE ALLEN MCGOVERN,
14	administer an oath, with the same force and		14	having been duly cautioned sworn to tell the
15	effect as if signed and sworn to before the		15	truth, the whole truth and nothing but the
16	Court.		16	truth, testified as follows:
17	- 000 -			
18			17	(10:01 a.m.)
19			18	EXAMINATION EXAMINATION
			19	BY MR. MORRIS:
20			20	Q. Could you please state your name for
21			21	the record?
22			22	A. My name is Bruce Allen McGovern.
23			23	Q. Good morning, Mr. McGovern. My name
24			24	is John Morris. I'm an attorney at Pachulski
1 0 -			25	Stang Ziehl & Jones. We are counsel to
25			23	beding frem a conest. We are comper to

1	Page 6 McGovern - 11-9-2021	1	Page 7 McGovern - 11-9-2021
2	Highland Capital Management, LP, a company that	2	know that? And we'll scroll down to the
3	has been reorganized following its bankruptcy	3	portions that you think you need to see.
4	in Texas.	4	Is that okay?
5	Are you aware of the bankruptcy?	5	A. Yes, I will.
6	A. Yes, I am.	6	Q. And if there's anything that I ask
7	Q. Okay. And we're here today for your	7	that you don't understand, will you let me know
8	deposition; is that right?	8	that?
9	A. Yes, that's correct.	9	A. Yes, I will.
10	Q. And you've been deposed on a number	10	Q. Okay. You were retained by the
11	of occasions in your professional capacity.	11	Stinson firm to provide expert testimony on
12	Do I have that right?	12	behalf of James Dondero; is that correct?
13	A. I believe there have been three	13	A. Yes, that's correct.
14	occasions, yes.	14	Q. Okay. And when were you retained?
15	Q. Okay. So I'm not going to ask you	15	A. I was retained sometime at the
16	about those occasions. I want to try to get	16	beginning of 2021, I believe. I don't recall
17	this done as quickly as we can.	17	the exact date, but it was in the first few
18	I'll just tell you that I don't	18	months of 2021.
19	know if any of those occasions were remote	19	Q. How did it come how did your
20	depositions, but remote depositions are	20	retention come about?
21	particularly difficult, only because we're not	21	A. I received a phone call, I believe,
22	in the same room.	22	from Michael Aigen, who is here today; and he
23	From time to time, we'll put	23	discussed with me the general nature of the
24	documents on the screen. If there's anything	24	underlying litigation and the issue on which he
25	that you need to see, will you please let me	25	and his firm were seeking expert testimony.
		-	
1	Page 8 McGovern - 11-9-2021	1	Page 9 McGovern - 11-9-2021
1 2		1 2	<del>-</del>
	McGovern - 11-9-2021		McGovern - 11-9-2021
2	$$\operatorname{\textsc{McGovern}}$ - 11-9-2021 And after discussing that with him, I agreed to	2	McGovern - 11-9-2021 Q. Okay. So so you were given a
2 3	McGovern - 11-9-2021  And after discussing that with him, I agreed to serve as an expert witness.	2 3	McGovern - 11-9-2021 Q. Okay. So so you were given a copy of the amended answer that he filed at the
2 3 4	McGovern - 11-9-2021  And after discussing that with him, I agreed to serve as an expert witness.  Q. And what exactly were you asked to	2 3 4	McGovern - 11-9-2021 Q. Okay. So so you were given a copy of the amended answer that he filed at the time that you were retained? Do I have that
2 3 4 5	McGovern - 11-9-2021  And after discussing that with him, I agreed to serve as an expert witness.  Q. And what exactly were you asked to do?	2 3 4 5	McGovern - 11-9-2021 Q. Okay. So so you were given a copy of the amended answer that he filed at the time that you were retained? Do I have that right?
2 3 4 5 6	McGovern - 11-9-2021  And after discussing that with him, I agreed to serve as an expert witness.  Q. And what exactly were you asked to do?  A. I was asked to prepare a report on a	2 3 4 5 6	McGovern - 11-9-2021 Q. Okay. So so you were given a copy of the amended answer that he filed at the time that you were retained? Do I have that right?  A. That's correct.
2 3 4 5 6 7	McGovern - 11-9-2021  And after discussing that with him, I agreed to serve as an expert witness.  Q. And what exactly were you asked to do?  A. I was asked to prepare a report on a specific legal issue that has to do with the	2 3 4 5 6 7	McGovern - 11-9-2021 Q. Okay. So so you were given a copy of the amended answer that he filed at the time that you were retained? Do I have that right?  A. That's correct. Q. So you couldn't have been retained
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	McGovern - 11-9-2021  And after discussing that with him, I agreed to serve as an expert witness.  Q. And what exactly were you asked to do?  A. I was asked to prepare a report on a specific legal issue that has to do with the structure of some loans from Highland Capital	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	McGovern - 11-9-2021 Q. Okay. So so you were given a copy of the amended answer that he filed at the time that you were retained? Do I have that right?  A. That's correct. Q. So you couldn't have been retained before the time the amended answer was filed;
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2 that fair? 2 MR. MORRIS	
2 that fair? 2 MR. MORRIS	Page 11   rn - 11-9-2021
	: I just want to point
	The witness may not be
	of our conversations, Dan
6 you I'd asked whether you had spoken with 6 Elms was listen.	·
	_
1	I apologize. I may be
<u> </u>	onfusing this with other
	Elms is not a lawyer at our
	I'm saying that, I actually
	g it with conversations with
12 communications with him. 12 our other exper	
	ecall him being in any of
14 communications relating to the work that you've 14 our discussions.	
15 done in this lawsuit have been exclusively with 15 MR. AIGEN	: I apologize. I probably
16 one or more lawyers from the Stinson firm? 16 should just be	quiet.
17 A. Yes, that's correct. 17 BY MR. MORRIS:	
18 Q. Okay. Have you ever communicated 18 Q. I'm going	to ask my colleague, La
19 with anybody else regarding any of the work 19 Asia Canty, to put of	n the screen a copy of your
20 that you've done in connection with this 20 report, which has been	en premarked as Exhibit 61.
21 engagement other than lawyers from the Stinson 21 (Exhibit	61 introduced.)
22 firm? 22 BY MR. MORRIS:	
23 A. No. I have not. 23 Q. And can yo	ou see that, sir?
24 Q. Okay. I'm going to ask you 24 A. Yes, I can	n.
25 MR. AIGEN: John. 25 Q. Okay.	
Page 12	Page 12
Page 12 1 McGovern - 11-9-2021 1 McGove	Page 13 ern - 11-9-2021
1 McGovern - 11-9-2021 1 McGove	
1 McGovern - 11-9-2021 1 McGover 2 MR. MORRIS: And if we could just 2 MR. MORRI	ern - 11-9-2021
1 McGovern - 11-9-2021 1 McGover 2 MR. MORRIS: And if we could just 2 MR. MORRI	ern - 11-9-2021
1 McGovern - 11-9-2021 1 McGover 2 MR. MORRIS: And if we could just 2 MR. MORRI 3 scroll to the last page, the signature 3 little bit. 4 line. 4 BY MR. MORRIS:	ern - 11-9-2021
1 McGovern - 11-9-2021 1 McGover 2 MR. MORRIS: And if we could just 2 MR. MORRI 3 scroll to the last page, the signature 3 little bit. 4 line. 4 BY MR. MORRIS: 5 BY MR. MORRIS: 5 Q. You revie	ern - 11-9-2021 ES: If we can scroll down a ewed five documents for
1 McGovern - 11-9-2021 1 McGover 2 MR. MORRIS: And if we could just 2 MR. MORRI 3 scroll to the last page, the signature 3 little bit. 4 line. 4 BY MR. MORRIS: 5 BY MR. MORRIS: 5 Q. You revie 6 Q. And that's your signature, sir? 6 purposes of preparing	ern - 11-9-2021 CS: If we can scroll down a
1 McGovern - 11-9-2021 1 McGover 2 MR. MORRIS: And if we could just 2 MR. MORRI 3 scroll to the last page, the signature 3 little bit. 4 line. 4 BY MR. MORRIS: 5 BY MR. MORRIS: 5 Q. You revie 6 Q. And that's your signature, sir? 6 purposes of preparir 7 A. Yes, it is. 7 that right?	ern - 11-9-2021 ES: If we can scroll down a ewed five documents for ag your report. Do I have
1 McGovern - 11-9-2021 1 McGover 2 MR. MORRIS: And if we could just 2 MR. MORRI 3 scroll to the last page, the signature 3 little bit. 4 line. 4 BY MR. MORRIS: 5 BY MR. MORRIS: 5 Q. You revie 6 Q. And that's your signature, sir? 6 purposes of preparin 7 A. Yes, it is. 7 that right? 8 Q. And did you sign this on or around 8 A. Yes, that	ern - 11-9-2021 ES: If we can scroll down a ewed five documents for ag your report. Do I have E's correct.
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1 McGovern - 11-9-2021 1 McGovern 2 MR. MORRIS: And if we could just 2 MR. MORRIS 3 scroll to the last page, the signature 3 little bit. 4 line. 4 BY MR. MORRIS: 5 BY MR. MORRIS: 5 Q. You review Q. And that's your signature, sir? 6 purposes of preparir 7 A. Yes, it is. 7 that right? 8 Q. And did you sign this on or around 8 A. Yes, that 9 May 28th, 2021? 9 Q. Okay. Ar 10 A. Yes, I did. 10 that are listed in the 11 MR. MORRIS: You can go back to the 11 report, right? 12 top. 12 A. Yes, that	ern - 11-9-2021 ES: If we can scroll down a  ewed five documents for ag your report. Do I have  e's correct. ad it's those five documents the first page of your  e's correct.
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1 McGovern - 11-9-2021 2 MR. MORRIS: And if we could just 3 scroll to the last page, the signature 4 line. 5 BY MR. MORRIS: 6 Q. And that's your signature, sir? 7 A. Yes, it is. 7 that right? 8 Q. And did you sign this on or around 9 May 28th, 2021? 9 Q. Okay. And 10 A. Yes, I did. 11 MR. MORRIS: You can go back to the 11 report, right? 12 top. 13 BY MR. MORRIS: 14 Q. As you sit here today, is there 15 anything that you believe is inaccurate about 15 additional documents	ern - 11-9-2021 ES: If we can scroll down a  ewed five documents for ag your report. Do I have  E's correct. ad it's those five documents the first page of your  E's correct. Ance signing this report on
1 McGovern - 11-9-2021 2 MR. MORRIS: And if we could just 3 scroll to the last page, the signature 4 line. 5 BY MR. MORRIS: 6 Q. And that's your signature, sir? 7 A. Yes, it is. 8 Q. And did you sign this on or around 9 May 28th, 2021? 9 Q. Okay. Ard 10 A. Yes, I did. 11 MR. MORRIS: You can go back to the 11 report, right? 12 top. 13 BY MR. MORRIS: 14 Q. As you sit here today, is there 15 anything that you believe is inaccurate about 16 your report? 11 MR. MORRIS: 12 MR. MORRIS: 13 MR. MORRIS: 14 May 28th, 2021, have 15 additional documents 16 your opinions?	exern - 11-9-2021 ES: If we can scroll down a  ewed five documents for ag your report. Do I have  E's correct.  Ind it's those five documents  The first page of your  E's correct.  Ince signing this report on  E you been provided with any  Es that relate in any way to
1 McGovern - 11-9-2021 2 MR. MORRIS: And if we could just 3 scroll to the last page, the signature 4 line. 5 BY MR. MORRIS: 6 Q. And that's your signature, sir? 7 A. Yes, it is. 7 that right? 8 Q. And did you sign this on or around 9 May 28th, 2021? 9 Q. Okay. And 10 A. Yes, I did. 11 MR. MORRIS: You can go back to the 11 report, right? 12 top. 13 BY MR. MORRIS: 14 Q. As you sit here today, is there 15 anything that you believe is inaccurate about 16 your report? 17 A. No. 11 McGover 12 MR. MORRIS: 13 MR. MORRIS: 14 MBY MR. MORRIS: 15 MR. MORRIS: 16 your opinions? 17 A. I've beer	ern - 11-9-2021 ES: If we can scroll down a  ewed five documents for ag your report. Do I have  E's correct.  ad it's those five documents the first page of your  E's correct.  Ince signing this report on a you been provided with any as that relate in any way to
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1 McGovern - 11-9-2021 2 MR. MORRIS: And if we could just 3 scroll to the last page, the signature 4 line. 5 BY MR. MORRIS: 6 Q. And that's your signature, sir? 7 A. Yes, it is. 8 Q. And did you sign this on or around 9 May 28th, 2021? 9 Q. Okay. Ard 10 A. Yes, I did. 11 MR. MORRIS: You can go back to the 11 report, right? 12 top. 13 BY MR. MORRIS: 14 Q. As you sit here today, is there 15 anything that you believe is inaccurate about 16 your report? 17 A. No. 18 Q. Is there anything that you believe 19 should be modified to state more clearly the 19 behalf of some of the	ern - 11-9-2021 ES: If we can scroll down a  ewed five documents for ag your report. Do I have  E's correct.  Ind it's those five documents  the first page of your  E's correct.  Ince signing this report on  It you been provided with any  Is that relate in any way to  In provided with copies of  It is those five documents  It is those f
McGovern - 11-9-2021  MR. MORRIS: And if we could just  Scroll to the last page, the signature  Line.  MCGOVER  MR. MORRIS: And if we could just  Line.  MCGOVER  MR. MORRIS:  MR. MORRIS:  Little bit.  MCGOVER  MCGOVER  MR. MORRIS:  Little bit.  Little bit.  MR. MORRIS:  Little bit.  MR. MORRIS:  Little bit.  Little b	ern - 11-9-2021 ES: If we can scroll down a  ewed five documents for ag your report. Do I have  E's correct.  Ind it's those five documents  Ethe first page of your  E's correct.  Ince signing this report on  E you been provided with any  Es that relate in any way to  In provided with copies of  Es that were executed on  The entities controlled by  Es of Highland Capital, and I
McGovern - 11-9-2021  MR. MORRIS: And if we could just  scroll to the last page, the signature  line.  MR. MORRIS:  MR. MO	ern - 11-9-2021 ES: If we can scroll down a  ewed five documents for ag your report. Do I have  E's correct.  ad it's those five documents the first page of your  E's correct.  Ince signing this report on a you been provided with any as that relate in any way to  In provided with copies of a that were executed on the entities controlled by a copy of the complaint in
1 McGovern - 11-9-2021 2 MR. MORRIS: And if we could just 3 scroll to the last page, the signature 4 line. 5 BY MR. MORRIS: 6 Q. And that's your signature, sir? 6 Q. And did you sign this on or around 8 A. Yes, that 10 yes, I did. 11 MR. MORRIS: You can go back to the 11 report, right? 12 top. 13 BY MR. MORRIS: 14 Q. As you sit here today, is there 15 anything that you believe is inaccurate about 16 your report? 17 A. No. 18 Q. Is there anything that you believe 19 should be modified to state more clearly the 20 opinions and the bases for them, as set forth 21 the MR. Morris is limited in the state in the promissory notes in this report? 22 A. No. 23 No. 24 MR. MORRIS: 25 Q. You revie of purposes of preparing that right? 26 purposes of preparing that right? 27 that right? 28 A. Yes, that 10 that are listed in the report, right? 10 that are listed in the report, right? 11 A. Yes, that 11 report, right? 12 A. Yes, that 12 A. Yes, that 13 Q. Okay. Since the promissory is additional documents and the bases for them, as set forth 20 Mr. Dondero in favor 21 in this report? 29 MR. MORRIS: 20 MR. MORRIS: 20 MR. MORRIS: 21 May MR. MORRIS: 22 M. No.	ern - 11-9-2021 ES: If we can scroll down a  ewed five documents for ag your report. Do I have  E's correct.  Ind it's those five documents  Ethe first page of your  E's correct.  Ince signing this report on  E you been provided with any  Es that relate in any way to  In provided with copies of  Es that were executed on  The entities controlled by  Es of Highland Capital, and I
1 McGovern - 11-9-2021 2 MR. MORRIS: And if we could just 3 scroll to the last page, the signature 4 line. 5 BY MR. MORRIS: 6 Q. And that's your signature, sir? 7 A. Yes, it is. 8 Q. And did you sign this on or around 9 May 28th, 2021? 9 Q. Okay. Ard 10 A. Yes, I did. 11 MR. MORRIS: You can go back to the 11 report, right? 12 top. 13 BY MR. MORRIS: 14 Q. As you sit here today, is there 15 anything that you believe is inaccurate about 16 your report? 17 A. No. 18 Q. Is there anything that you believe 19 should be modified to state more clearly the 20 Q. Your report has not been amended or 21 in this report? 22 A. No. 23 Q. Your reported 24 MR. MORRIS: 26 MR. MORRIS: 27 MR. MORRIS: 3 little bit. 4 BY MR. MORRIS: 5 Q. You revice purposes of preparing that right? 4 BY MR. MORRIS: 5 Q. You revice purposes of preparing that right? 6 purposes of preparing that right? 7 that right? 8 A. Yes, that 10 that are listed in the report, right? 10 A. Yes, that 11 report, right? 11 MCGOVE 12 A. Yes, that 12 A. Yes, that 13 Q. Okay. Since the propert is additional documents additional documents your opinions? 15 A. No. 16 Your report? 17 A. No. 18 Q. Is there anything that you believe the promissory notes the promissory notes the promissory notes the promissory notes opinions and the bases for them, as set forth 20 Mr. Dondero in favor 21 in this report? 22 A. No. 23 Q. Your report has not been amended or 24 entities.	ern - 11-9-2021 ES: If we can scroll down a  ewed five documents for ag your report. Do I have  E's correct.  Ind it's those five documents  Ethe first page of your  E's correct.  Ince signing this report on  E you been provided with any  Es that relate in any way to  In provided with copies of  Es that were executed on  E entities controlled by  Es of Highland Capital, and I  En a copy of the complaint in  Ending filed against the
1 McGovern - 11-9-2021 2 MR. MORRIS: And if we could just 2 MR. MORRIS 3 scroll to the last page, the signature 3 little bit. 4 line. 4 BY MR. MORRIS: 5 BY MR. MORRIS: 5 Q. You review 6 Q. And that's your signature, sir? 6 purposes of preparir 7 A. Yes, it is. 7 that right? 8 Q. And did you sign this on or around 8 A. Yes, that 9 May 28th, 2021? 9 Q. Okay. Ar 10 A. Yes, I did. 10 that are listed in that are listed in the many many 28th, 2021? 10 A. Yes, I did. 10 that are listed in the many many 28th and 10 that are listed in the many many 28th and 10 that are listed in the many many 28th and 28th a	ern - 11-9-2021 ES: If we can scroll down a  ewed five documents for ag your report. Do I have  E's correct.  ad it's those five documents the first page of your  E's correct.  Ince signing this report on a you been provided with any as that relate in any way to  In provided with copies of a that were executed on the entities controlled by a copy of the complaint in

Page 14 Page 15 McGovern - 11-9-2021 1 McGovern - 11-9-2021 1 2 2 believe, sometime last week. Did you ever ask for any information Q. 3 And to confirm, those documents 3 concerning Highland's treatment of the loans in haven't caused you to change your opinions as its books and records? 4 5 set forth in your report in any way, correct? 5 Α. No, I did not. 6 That's correct. 6 Is Highland's treatment of the loans 7 Did you have any discussion with 7 in its books and records relevant at all to Ο. 8 anybody about why you weren't given those 8 your opinions as set forth in Exhibit 61? 9 documents before you completed your report on 9 No, I don't believe it is. 10 May 28th? 10 Q. Were you given copies of Highland's 11 Α. No. I was not provided any 11 audited financial statements? 12 explanation of that. What did occur is that I 12 No, I was not. I've discussed 13 met with attorneys from the Stinson law firm to 13 already all of the documents that I was 14 discuss the deposition today; and following 14 provided to you, both to prepare the report and 15 that conversation, I was sent by email copies 15 that I was provided subsequent to the report. 16 of the additional documents. 16 Did you ask to see Highland's 17 Okay. But you don't recall having 17 audited financial statements? 18 No, I did not. 18 any discussion about why you hadn't been given Α. 19 copies of those documents before you completed 19 Is it fair to say that the treatment 20 your report on May 28th, 2021, correct? 20 of the loans in Highland's audited financial That's correct. statements is irrelevant to your opinions as 21 Α. 21 22 Ο. Okay. Were you ever given any 22 set forth in Exhibit 61? 23 information concerning Highland's treatment of 23 Yes. I think that's a fair Α. 24 the loans on Highland's books and records? 24 assessment. 25 A. 25 No, I was not. Q. Did you ask for any documents that Page 16 Page 17 1 McGovern - 11-9-2021 McGovern - 11-9-2021 1 2 are not listed in your report? 2 example, that there were promissory notes 3 No, I did not. 3 signed by a few different entities controlled Α. 4 4 by Mr. Dondero that were organized in different Ο. So is it fair to say that you never 5 5 looked at any documents that were filed in forms. 6 Highland's bankruptcy case? 6 One, I believe, was HCE, but I can't 7 7 The only documents I've looked at recall off the top of my head if that was a 8 that were filed in the bankruptcy case are the 8 limited partnership or a corporation. 9 complaint and the amended answer. 9 I take it that you have never seen 10 And you never asked for any any of Mr. Dondero's written responses to 0. 10 documents that were filed in the bankruptcy Highland's discovery requests? 11 11 12 case other than the documents set forth in your 12 Α. That is correct. 13 report, correct? 13 Have you ever seen any transcripts 14 A. 14 from any depositions that have been given in That's correct. 15 15 Q. As a general matter, is Highland's these adversary proceedings? treatment of the loans relevant at all to your 16 16 Α. No, I have not. 17 17 opinions? Have you ever asked to see any Α. No, it's not, because I was asked to transcripts of any depositions that were given 18 18 19 make certain assumptions in connection with 19 in these adversary proceedings? 20 20 preparing my report. No, I have not. 21 Okay. Can you identify any of the 21 Okay. So your opinions don't take 22 promissory notes that you were given in the 22 into account any of the testimony that was last week or so? 23 23 adduced in any depositions that were given in 24 Α. Off the top of my head, I can't. 24 these adversary proceedings, correct?

25

I'd have to look in my files, but I recall, for

25

That's correct.

			- 40
1	Page 18 McGovern - 11-9-2021	1	Page 19 McGovern - 11-9-2021
2	Q. Okay.	2	Q. Okay. Let's look at the second
3	MR. MORRIS: If we could turn to the	3	assumed fact.
4	assumptions.	4	It says, quote: Subsequent to
5	Okay. Right there is fine.	5	Mr. Dondero's execution of the notes, but
6	BY MR. MORRIS:	6	before Highland Capital made demand for payment
7	Q. So you were asked to assume the	7	of the notes, Highland Capital and Mr. Dondero
8	facts that are set forth in the five numbered	8	entered into an oral agreement, which I think
9	paragraphs on this page, correct?	9	you're defining there as "the subsequent
10	A. Yes, that's correct.	10	agreement."
11	Q. Okay. And, in fact, you satisfied	11	Have I read that correctly?
12	yourself, have you not, that Assumed Fact	12	A. Yes, that is correct.
13	Number 1 is actually true, correct?	13	Q. Have you been given any document
14	A. That is an assumption.	14	withdrawn.
15	MR. AIGEN: Objection, form.	15	Have you been given any documentary
16	A. I don't have any basis for for	16	evidence concerning the subsequent agreement?
17	example, identifying that that's actually	17	A. No, I have not.
18	Mr. Dondero's signature; but I was asked to	18	Q. Do you know whether has anybody
19	assume that for purposes of the report, that he	19	ever informed you whether such documentation
20	had signed these promissory notes.	20	exists?
21	BY MR. MORRIS:	21	A. Nobody has ever suggested that to
22	Q. Did anybody tell you that	22	me.
23	Mr. Dondero disputed his execution of the three	23	Q. Okay. Did you ask to see any
24	promissory notes that were given to you?	24	documents concerning the existence of the
25	A. No.	25	subsequent agreement?
		1	
	Page 20		Page 21
1	Page 20 McGovern - 11-9-2021	1	Page 21 McGovern - 11-9-2021
1 2	=	1 2	
	McGovern - 11-9-2021		McGovern - 11-9-2021
2	McGovern - 11-9-2021 A. No, I did not.	2	McGovern - 11-9-2021 A. I don't know the exact date. I was
2 3	McGovern - 11-9-2021  A. No, I did not.  Q. And that's because you were just	2 3	McGovern - 11-9-2021  A. I don't know the exact date. I was asked to assume only that it had occurred after
2 3 4	McGovern - 11-9-2021  A. No, I did not.  Q. And that's because you were just asked to assume that the subsequent agreement	2 3 4	McGovern - 11-9-2021  A. I don't know the exact date. I was asked to assume only that it had occurred after the execution of the original promissory notes.
2 3 4 5	McGovern - 11-9-2021  A. No, I did not.  Q. And that's because you were just asked to assume that the subsequent agreement existed, correct?	2 3 4 5	McGovern - 11-9-2021  A. I don't know the exact date. I was asked to assume only that it had occurred after the execution of the original promissory notes.  Q. Were you asked to make any
2 3 4 5 6	McGovern - 11-9-2021  A. No, I did not.  Q. And that's because you were just asked to assume that the subsequent agreement existed, correct?  A. It's because I was asked to assume	2 3 4 5 6	McGovern - 11-9-2021  A. I don't know the exact date. I was asked to assume only that it had occurred after the execution of the original promissory notes.  Q. Were you asked to make any assumptions concerning the number of subsequent
2 3 4 5 6 7	McGovern - 11-9-2021  A. No, I did not.  Q. And that's because you were just asked to assume that the subsequent agreement existed, correct?  A. It's because I was asked to assume that there was an oral agreement, and normally	2 3 4 5 6 7	McGovern - 11-9-2021  A. I don't know the exact date. I was asked to assume only that it had occurred after the execution of the original promissory notes.  Q. Were you asked to make any assumptions concerning the number of subsequent agreements that were entered into between
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	McGovern - 11-9-2021  A. No, I did not.  Q. And that's because you were just asked to assume that the subsequent agreement existed, correct?  A. It's because I was asked to assume that there was an oral agreement, and normally there would be no documentation of an oral agreement.  Q. Okay. It's possible that after	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	McGovern - 11-9-2021  A. I don't know the exact date. I was asked to assume only that it had occurred after the execution of the original promissory notes.  Q. Were you asked to make any assumptions concerning the number of subsequent agreements that were entered into between  Mr. Dondero and Highland Capital?  A. I'm sorry, could you could you restate that?
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	McGovern - 11-9-2021  A. No, I did not.  Q. And that's because you were just asked to assume that the subsequent agreement existed, correct?  A. It's because I was asked to assume that there was an oral agreement, and normally there would be no documentation of an oral agreement.  Q. Okay. It's possible that after somebody enters into an oral agreement,	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	McGovern - 11-9-2021  A. I don't know the exact date. I was asked to assume only that it had occurred after the execution of the original promissory notes.  Q. Were you asked to make any assumptions concerning the number of subsequent agreements that were entered into between  Mr. Dondero and Highland Capital?  A. I'm sorry, could you could you restate that?  Q. Were you asked to assume that there
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	McGovern - 11-9-2021  A. No, I did not.  Q. And that's because you were just asked to assume that the subsequent agreement existed, correct?  A. It's because I was asked to assume that there was an oral agreement, and normally there would be no documentation of an oral agreement.  Q. Okay. It's possible that after somebody enters into an oral agreement, somebody makes a note to to write down the	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	A. I don't know the exact date. I was asked to assume only that it had occurred after the execution of the original promissory notes.  Q. Were you asked to make any assumptions concerning the number of subsequent agreements that were entered into between Mr. Dondero and Highland Capital?  A. I'm sorry, could you could you restate that?  Q. Were you asked to assume that there was one subsequent agreement between Highland
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	McGovern - 11-9-2021  A. No, I did not.  Q. And that's because you were just asked to assume that the subsequent agreement existed, correct?  A. It's because I was asked to assume that there was an oral agreement, and normally there would be no documentation of an oral agreement.  Q. Okay. It's possible that after somebody enters into an oral agreement, somebody makes a note to to write down the terms that were agreed to; isn't that fair?	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	A. I don't know the exact date. I was asked to assume only that it had occurred after the execution of the original promissory notes.  Q. Were you asked to make any assumptions concerning the number of subsequent agreements that were entered into between Mr. Dondero and Highland Capital?  A. I'm sorry, could you could you restate that?  Q. Were you asked to assume that there was one subsequent agreement between Highland Capital and Mr. Dondero or more than one
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	McGovern - 11-9-2021  A. No, I did not.  Q. And that's because you were just asked to assume that the subsequent agreement existed, correct?  A. It's because I was asked to assume that there was an oral agreement, and normally there would be no documentation of an oral agreement.  Q. Okay. It's possible that after somebody enters into an oral agreement, somebody makes a note to to write down the terms that were agreed to; isn't that fair?  A. Yes, that's possible.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	A. I don't know the exact date. I was asked to assume only that it had occurred after the execution of the original promissory notes.  Q. Were you asked to make any assumptions concerning the number of subsequent agreements that were entered into between  Mr. Dondero and Highland Capital?  A. I'm sorry, could you could you restate that?  Q. Were you asked to assume that there was one subsequent agreement between Highland Capital and Mr. Dondero or more than one subsequent agreement between Highland Capital
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	A. No, I did not. Q. And that's because you were just asked to assume that the subsequent agreement existed, correct? A. It's because I was asked to assume that there was an oral agreement, and normally there would be no documentation of an oral agreement. Q. Okay. It's possible that after somebody enters into an oral agreement, somebody makes a note to to write down the terms that were agreed to; isn't that fair? A. Yes, that's possible. Q. Okay. And in your expertise, would you expect somebody to withdrawn.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	A. I don't know the exact date. I was asked to assume only that it had occurred after the execution of the original promissory notes.  Q. Were you asked to make any assumptions concerning the number of subsequent agreements that were entered into between Mr. Dondero and Highland Capital?  A. I'm sorry, could you could you restate that?  Q. Were you asked to assume that there was one subsequent agreement between Highland Capital and Mr. Dondero or more than one subsequent agreement between Highland Capital and Mr. Dondero?  A. My assumption has been that there
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	A. No, I did not.  Q. And that's because you were just asked to assume that the subsequent agreement existed, correct?  A. It's because I was asked to assume that there was an oral agreement, and normally there would be no documentation of an oral agreement.  Q. Okay. It's possible that after somebody enters into an oral agreement, somebody makes a note to to write down the terms that were agreed to; isn't that fair?  A. Yes, that's possible.  Q. Okay. And in your expertise, would you expect somebody to withdrawn.  Do you know when the subsequent withdrawn.  I'm going to use the phrase "subsequent agreement" to refer to the agreement that's described in Assumption Number	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	A. I don't know the exact date. I was asked to assume only that it had occurred after the execution of the original promissory notes.  Q. Were you asked to make any assumptions concerning the number of subsequent agreements that were entered into between Mr. Dondero and Highland Capital?  A. I'm sorry, could you could you restate that?  Q. Were you asked to assume that there was one subsequent agreement between Highland Capital and Mr. Dondero or more than one subsequent agreement between Highland Capital and Mr. Dondero?  A. My assumption has been that there was only a single oral agreement; however, given that there were multiple promissory notes, it's conceivable that there could have been separate oral agreements for each note.  But, in general, I've been assuming a single
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	A. No, I did not.  Q. And that's because you were just asked to assume that the subsequent agreement existed, correct?  A. It's because I was asked to assume that there was an oral agreement, and normally there would be no documentation of an oral agreement.  Q. Okay. It's possible that after somebody enters into an oral agreement, somebody makes a note to to write down the terms that were agreed to; isn't that fair?  A. Yes, that's possible.  Q. Okay. And in your expertise, would you expect somebody to withdrawn.  Do you know when the subsequent withdrawn.  I'm going to use the phrase "subsequent agreement" to refer to the agreement that's described in Assumption Number 2. Is that okay?	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	A. I don't know the exact date. I was asked to assume only that it had occurred after the execution of the original promissory notes.  Q. Were you asked to make any assumptions concerning the number of subsequent agreements that were entered into between Mr. Dondero and Highland Capital?  A. I'm sorry, could you could you restate that?  Q. Were you asked to assume that there was one subsequent agreement between Highland Capital and Mr. Dondero or more than one subsequent agreement between Highland Capital and Mr. Dondero?  A. My assumption has been that there was only a single oral agreement; however, given that there were multiple promissory notes, it's conceivable that there could have been separate oral agreements for each note.  But, in general, I've been assuming a single oral agreement that applied to all of the
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Page 22 Page 23 McGovern - 11-9-2021 1 McGovern - 11-9-2021 1 agreements that may exist, correct? 2 assuming only that there was a subsequent 2 3 That's correct. 3 agreement that occurred after the execution of Α. 4 Q. And you weren't asked to assume that 4 the notes, but before demand for payment on the 5 more than one subsequent agreement existed, 5 notes had been made. 6 correct? 6 So you're not offering any opinion 7 7 That's correct. that the subsequent agreement actually exists, Α. 8 And when you prepared your report, 8 correct? 9 the assumption that you made was that there was 9 Α. That's correct. 10 only one subsequent agreement, correct? 10 And you're not offering any opinion Q. Yes, the subsequent agreement to 11 that the terms of the subsequent agreement were 11 which I refer in my report. 12 12 reasonable, correct? 13 13 Okay. Do you know who entered the Α. That's correct. 14 14 subsequent agreement on behalf of Highland You're not offering any opinion that 15 Capital? 15 the subsequent agreement was fair to both 16 16 parties, correct? Α. No, I do not. 17 Do you know if the subsequent 17 Α. That's correct. agreement was ever disclosed to Highland 18 18 Q. And you're not offering any opinion 19 Capital's outside auditors? 19 that the person who entered into the subsequent 20 A. No, I do not. 20 agreement on behalf of Highland Capital fulfilled his or her or its duties, correct? Is it fair to say that the 21 Q. 21 22 circumstances surrounding the entry into the 22 Α. That's correct. 23 subsequent agreement are not relevant to your 23 Are you offering any opinion at all 0. 24 opinions as set forth in Exhibit 61? 24 about the subsequent agreement? 25 25 Α. Yes, that's correct, because I'm MR. AIGEN: Objection, form. Page 24 Page 25 McGovern - 11-9-2021 McGovern - 11-9-2021 1 1 2 I'm offering an opinion only about 2 agreement did not change the outcome for him, Α. that it -- it would not cause him to have 3 the effect of the subsequent agreement, 3 4 4 income from the -- the loans. assuming that the subs- -- subsequent agreement 5 And so if there is no subs- -- if I 5 is as I described in my report. 6 BY MR. MORRIS: 6 ask you to assume that there is no subsequent 7 7 Q. Okay. What if I asked you to assume agreement, would your opinion be that 8 that there was no subsequent agreement? Would 8 Mr. Dondero therefore owes any unpaid principal 9 that change your opinions? 9 and interest due under each of the notes that 10 MR. AIGEN: Objection, form. 10 you've reviewed? It -- it would not change my 11 11 Based on the -- my review of the 12 ultimate opinion, which is that there is no 12 promissory notes, yes, that the notes are 13 cancellation of indebtedness income for 13 demand notes in favor of Highland Capital. 14 Mr. Dondero. 14 Okay. Let's go to Assumed Fact 15 BY MR. MORRIS: 15 Number 3. It states, quote: In the subsequent 16 Q. And your opinion today is that 16 agreement between Highland Capital and 17 there's no taxable income to Mr. Dondero 17 Mr. Dondero, Highland Capital agreed that it because the conditions subsequent that you were would not collect on the notes unless certain 18 18 19 asked to assume have not yet been satisfied; is 19 conditions defined as "the conditions," could 20 20 that fair? not be satisfied. In other words, Highland 21 That's correct. My opinion is that 21 Capital agreed that the loans will be forgiven Α. 22 there was no income for him at the time of the 22 only if the conditions are satisfied. 23 23 original loans because of his obligation to Do I have that right? repay, and that assuming the subsequent 24 24 Α. Yes, that's correct. 25 agreement occurred, that the subsequent 25 Okay. And -- and -- and that -- all Q.

Page 26 Page 27 1 McGovern - 11-9-2021 1 McGovern - 11-9-2021 of that -- everything in Number 3 is -- is an 2 would be satisfied? 2 3 assumption that you were asked to make in 3 Α. No, I was not. Did you ask any -- did you ask for 4 rendering your opinion, correct? 4 5 5 any information concerning the likelihood that Α. Yes, that's correct. 6 the conditions would be satisfied? Do you know what the conditions 6 7 were? 7 No, I did not. 8 Α. I don't know the details of the 8 Is it fair to say that the opinions 9 conditions. I was asked to assume only that 9 set forth in Exhibit 61 do not take into 10 the conditions related to things beyond 10 account the likelihood that the conditions Mr. Dondero's control, such as the sale of 11 would be satisfied? 11 12 certain assets above cost. 12 I think that's an accurate 13 Okay. That bleeds into the fourth statement. The -- the only assumption is that 13 14 assumption, but I just want to stick with 14 these conditions are things that will be beyond 15 Number 3 for the moment. Do you have any other 15 Mr. Dondero's control and subject to 16 information about what the conditions were, 16 influences, such as market values. 17 other than the sale of an asset above cost? 17 So the likelihood that the No, I do not. conditions would be satisfied was not relevant 18 Α. 18 19 Did you ask any questions about the 19 to your analysis, correct? 20 nature, extent, and scope of the conditions? 20 Α. As far as probability, that's Only if whether the conditions were 21 21 correct. 22 things beyond his control, but other than that, 22 Ο. Okay. And you're not offering any 23 I did not ask for details. 23 opinion as to the likelihood that any of the 24 Were you given any information 24 conditions would be satisfied, correct? concerning the likelihood that the conditions 25 25 Α. That's correct. Page 28 Page 29 1 McGovern - 11-9-2021 McGovern - 11-9-2021 1 2 Okay. Let's move on to the fourth 2 bankruptcy? Q. 3 assumed fact. It states, quote: Whether the 3 Yes, I am. Α. 4 4 conditions are satisfied was not and is not Q. Are you aware that he had -- I'll --5 within Mr. Dondero's control because they 5 I'll ask you to assume that he had the 6 included the condition that certain portfolio authority to buy and sell assets on behalf of 6 7 7 company assets be sold above cost or in a Highland. Can you -- can you accept that 8 manner outside of Mr. Dondero's control. 8 assumption? 9 Have I read that correctly? 9 Α.

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Yes, you did. Α.

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- What if the satisfaction of the conditions was within Mr. Dondero's control? If you make that assumption, how does your -how do your opinions change, if at all?
- I'm just thinking through your question. If the conditions are within his control, then that could potentially change the outcome as to whether there was income from the discharge of indebtedness, but in order to provide an opinion on that, I would have to know the details of the conditions; that is, exactly what they are and how it is that he has control over them.
- 24 Okay. So are you aware that 25 Mr. Dondero controlled Highland prior to the

- - Okay. If you -- if you accept that assumption for purposes of my hypothetical, and you also assume that the portfolio company assets that are the subject of the conditions were valued above cost at the time the subsequent agreement was entered into, would that impact your opinions if you assumed -- so I'm asking you to really make just two assumptions: Number one, Mr. Dondero had the ability to sell the portfolio company assets any time he wanted, and number two, that at the time he entered into the subsequent agreement, the value of the portfolio company assets was above cost. How did those two assumptions, if you -- if you accept them, how do they change your analysis, if -- if at all?

Page 30 Page 31 McGovern - 11-9-2021 1 McGovern - 11-9-2021 1 That's correct. Although in -- in 2 Assuming those two facts, they could 2 Α. 3 change the analysis of the issue of whether 3 fairness, as I've said, I don't know the 4 Mr. Dondero had income from the cancellation of 4 details of all the conditions, but was asked to 5 indebtedness. The key question really is 5 assume that they included the condition that 6 whether Highland Capital, at the time of the 6 these assets be sold above cost. 7 subsequent agreement, was actually agreeing to 7 Yeah, I just want to focus on -- on 8 cancel the loans at that time, or was it 8 the assumptions that you were asked to make, so 9 agreeing in the future to cancel the loans if let me give you a hypothetical. Let's say one 9 10 certain conditions occurred? 10 of the company assets was valued at \$50 million If those conditions are within the 11 on the date the subsequent agreement was 11 12 control of Mr. Dondero and in effect already in 12 entered into, but that Highland's cost for place, then it's quite possible that he would 13 13 acquiring its interest in that asset was only 14 have had income from the discharge of 14 \$10 million, and Mr. Dondero had the ability to 15 indebtedness at that time because the loans in 15 sell that asset at -- at any time prior to the fact had been forgiven. 16 bankruptcy filing. 16 17 But you weren't ass- -- you weren't 17 Under that hypothetical, would 18 18 asked to assume that Highland placed any Mr. Dondero have to realize the income? 19 condition on the timing of the forgiveness, 19 If he actually sold the assets, then 20 correct? 20 -- then yes. And what about if he didn't sell the 21 Α. That's correct. 21 Ο. 22 Ο. And -- and you, in fact, were asked 22 assets, but that it was within his control to 23 to assume that if the portfolio company assets 23 do so at any time? were sold above cost, the loans would be 24 24 It's possible that that could change 25 25 forgiven, correct? the outcome, as far as whether he had income Page 32 Page 33 1 McGovern - 11-9-2021 McGovern - 11-9-2021 1 2 professor. I appreciate your time and --2 from the cancellation of indebtedness, but if 3 and -- and your attention. 3 that's true, that means that the loans actually THE WITNESS: All right. Thank you 4 had been forgiven at that time. 5 5 MR. MORRIS: I have no further 6 MR. MORRIS: Okay. Have a good day. 6 questions. 7 THE WITNESS: Thank you. 7 MR. AIGEN: I have one thing to 8 MR. MORRIS: Bye, now. 8 clear up, I think. 9 THE REPORTER: Mr. Aigen, do you 9 EXAMINATION need a copy of this deposition? 10 10 BY MR. AIGEN: 11 MR. AIGEN: If we can just get a 11 Early on in the deposition, when 12 rough when one's available, and then we'll 12 asked what your assignment was, you mentioned take the original whenever it's due. 13 13 that you were providing an opinion on a legal 14 (Time Noted: 10:34 a.m.) 14 issue. I just want to make sure, you we- --15 16 15 you're not sitting here today opining on the 17 law. You're applying certain facts to the law; 16 BRUCE McGOVERN 17 is that correct? 18 Α. That's correct. I am taking an 18 Subscribed and sworn to before me 19 19 assumed set of facts, and I've been asked to this \_\_\_\_\_, day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021. 20 provide an opinion on what is the outcome on a 20 21 particular legal issue as app- -- applying the 21 22 law to those facts, that's correct. 22 23 MR. AIGEN: Okay. That's all I 23 have, John. 24 24 25 MR. MORRIS: Okay. Thank you, 25

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1	McGovern - 11-9-2021	Page 34	Page 35 1 ERRATA SHEET
2	CERTIFICATE		2 Case Name:
_	STATE OF TEXAS )		
3	COUNTY OF ELLIS )		3 Deposition Date:
4	,		4 Deponent:
l _	I, Daniel J. Skur, a Notary Public		5 Pg. No. Now Reads Should Read Reason
5	<pre>within and for the State of Texas, do hereby certify:</pre>		
6	That BRUCE McGOVERN, the witness		
	whose deposition is hereinbefore set forth,		7
7	was duly sworn by me and that such		8
8	deposition is a true record of the testimony given by such witness.		9
ľ°	That pursuant to Rule 30 of the Federal		· — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —
9	Rules of Civil Procedure, signature of the		10
١.,	witness was not reserved by the witness or		11
10	other party before the conclusion of the deposition;		12
11	I further certify that I am not		13
1	related to any of the parties to this		
12	action by blood or marriage; and that I am		14
13	in no way interested in the outcome of this matter.		15
1	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto		16
14	set my hand this 9th day of November,		
1,-	2021.		17
15 16	61500		18
17	18an O		19
1			20
18	Daniel J. Skur		
19	Notary Public, State of Texas. My Commission Expires 7/7/2022		
-	TSG Reporting, Inc.		21 Signature of Deponent
20	228 East 45th Street, Suite 810		22 SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN BEFORE ME
	New York, New York		
21 22	(877) 702-9580		
23			24
24			25 (Notary Public) MY COMMISSION EXPIRES:
25			
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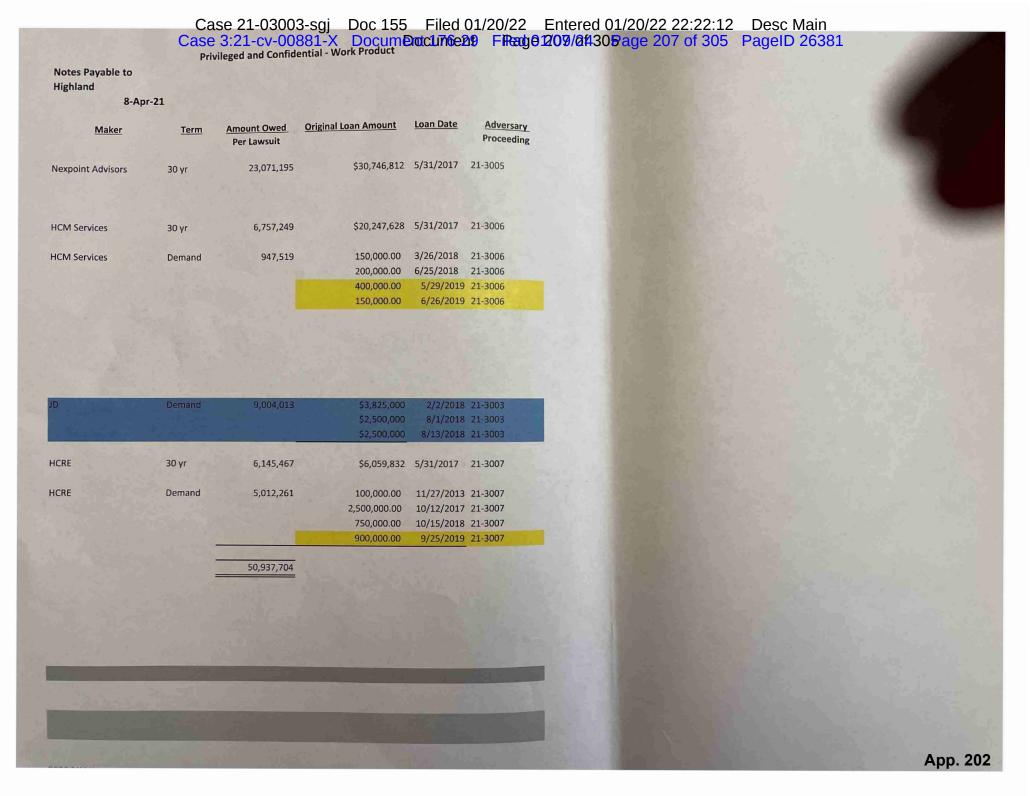
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## Exhibit C



## **Exhibit D**

Case 21-03003-sgj Doc 155 Filed 01/20/22 Entered 01/20/22 22:22:12 Desc Main Case 3:21-cv-00881-X Docum Protclinger Fired 01/20/24 Entered 01/20/22 22:22:12 Desc Main Case 3:21-cv-00881-X Docum Protclinger Fired 01/20/24 Entered 01/20/22 22:22:12 Desc Main Case 3:21-cv-00881-X Docum Protclinger Fired 01/20/24 Entered 01/20/22 22:22:12 Desc Main Case 3:21-cv-00881-X Docum Protclinger Fired 01/20/24 Entered 01/20/24 22:22:12 Desc Main Case 3:21-cv-00881-X Docum Protclinger Fired 01/20/24 Entered 01/20/24 22:22:12 Desc Main Case 3:21-cv-00881-X Docum Protclinger Fired 01/20/24 Entered 01/20/24 22:22:12 Desc Main Case 3:21-cv-00881-X Docum Protclinger Fired 01/20/24 Entered 01/20/24 22:22:12 Desc Main Case 3:21-cv-00881-X Docum Protclinger Fired 01/20/24 Entered 01/20/24 20:22:22:12 Desc Main Case 3:21-cv-00881-X Docum Protclinger Fired 01/20/24 Entered 01/20/24 20:22:22:12 Desc Main Case 3:21-cv-00881-X Docum Protclinger Fired 01/20/24 Entered 01/

From: Frank Waterhouse < FWaterhouse @HighlandCapital.com>
To: Kristin Hendrix < KHendrix@HighlandCapital.com>

Subject: RE: Wires for today

Date: Wed, 25 Nov 2020 10:01:23 -0600

Importance: Normal Inline-Images: image001.jpg

ok

From: Kristin Hendrix

Sent: Wednesday, November 25, 2020 10:01 AM

To: Frank Waterhouse Subject: Wires for today

**HCM** 

AT&T USD 2,845.06 Grubhub USD 1,422.24

**HCMFA** 

**HCM** Insurance

Acct USD 17,373.85 Dec premiums

<u>NPA</u>

**HCM** Insurance

Acct USD 38,453.01 Dec premiums UMB Bank USD 355.31

**HCFD Operating** 

HCMFA USD 61,691.00 Shared Services

HCM Insurance

Acct USD 51,779.84 Dec premiums

Eagle Equity

HCM Insurance

Acct USD 2,323.63 Dec premiums

Okay to release?

Kristin Hendrix, CPA | Assistant Controller

HIGHLAND CAPITAL

300 Crescent Court | Suite 700 | Dallas, Texas 75201

O: 972,628.4127 | F: 972.628.4147

khendrix@highlandcapital.com | www.highlandcapital.com



Case 21-03003-sgj Doc 155 Filed 01/20/22 Entered 01/20/22 22:22:12 Desc Main Case 3:21-cv-00881-X Docum Protclinger Fired 01/20/24309 age 210 of 305 PageID 26384

From: Frank Waterhouse < FWaterhouse @HighlandCapital.com>

To: Kristin Hendrix < KHendrix @ Highland Capital.com >

Subject: RE: Wires for today

Date: Mon, 30 Nov 2020 10:45:44 -0600

Importance: Normal Inline-Images: image001.jpg

ok

From: Kristin Hendrix

Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 10:46 AM

To: Frank Waterhouse Subject: Wires for today

**HCM** 

Arris Western USD 11,000.00

**HCMFA** 

HCM USD 308,374.00 Shared Services HCFD Oper USD 250,000.00 Equity Contribution

**NPA** 

HCMFA USD 325,000.00 one day loan HCFD Oper USD 120,762.09 Transfer Pricing

HCFD Oper

Sea Island USD 23,511.90 Final Presidents Club bill

**HCFD 12B-1** 

HCMFA USD 37,822.00 12B-1 Reimbursement

Falcon GP

HCM USD 15,000.00 Shared Services

<u>NREA</u>

HCM USD 80,000.00 Shared Services

Okay to release?

Kristin Hendrix, CPA | Assistant Controller



300 Crescent Court | Suite 700 | Dallas, Texas 75201

O: 972 628.4127 [ F: 972.628.4147

Case 21-03003-sgj Doc 155 Filed 01/20/22 Entered 01/20/22 22:22:12 Desc Main Case 3:21-cv-00881-X Docum Potclingent Fixed 1/2019/04/30 Fage 211 of 305 PageID 26385

From: Frank Waterhouse <FWaterhouse@HighlandCapital.com>
To: Kristin Hendrix <KHendrix@HighlandCapital.com>

Subject: RE: Wires for today

Date: Tue, 1 Dec 2020 12:04:49 -0600

Importance: Normal
Inline-Images: image001.jpg

ok

From: Kristin Hendrix

Sent: Tuesday, December 1, 2020 12:00 PM

To: Frank Waterhouse Subject: Wires for today

H	~	R/I
п	u	IVI

Crescent TC	USD	158,695.74
Seery	USD	150,000.00
Nelms	USD	30,000.00
Dubel	USD	30,000.00
Simek	USD	42,598.52

### **HCMNY**

Times Sq USD 27,454.67

### **HCMFA**

NPA	USD	325,000.00	11/30/2020 Loan Repayment
HIGHLAND TOTAL			
RETURN	USD	72,912.75	Advisory Fees
HIGHLAND FIXED			
INCOME	USD	55,287.79	Advisory Fees
HIGHLAND/IBOXX			
SRLOAN ETF	USD	25,004.95	Advisory Fees
HIGHLAND SMALL CAP			
EQUITY	USD	19,293.59	Advisory Fees

### **HCFD**

Paul DeMaio USD 2,000.00 Return of IT Holdback

Okay to send?

Kristin Hendrix, CPA | Assistant Controller



300 Crescent Court | Suite 700 | Dallas, Texas 75201

Case 21-03003-sgj Doc 155 Filed 01/20/22 Entered 01/20/22 22:22:12 Desc Main Case 3:21-cv-00881-X Docum Protclinger Fired 01/20/24309 age 212 of 305 PageID 26386

From: Kristin Hendrix <KHendrix@HighlandCapital.com>
To: Frank Waterhouse <FWaterhouse@HighlandCapital.com>

Cc: David Klos < DKlos@HighlandCapital.com>

Subject: FW: HCM - HCMFA/NPA

Date: Mon, 21 Dec 2020 12:30:25 -0600

Importance: Normal

**FYI** 

From: Jack Donohue

Sent: Monday, December 21, 2020 12:15 PM

To: Kristin Hendrix Cc: Fred Caruso

Subject: HCM - HCMFA/NPA

Kristin,

Has NPA paid the December payments \$168k and 252k payments for shared service and subadvisor? The last payment I see was 11/2/2020. Has HCMFA paid the December payment of \$416k? The last payment I see was on 11/2/2020.

Thanks,

Jack

Jack M. Donohue, CPA

Development Specialists, Inc.

10 South LaSalle Street, Suite 3300 Chicago, Illinois 60603

Phone: (312) 263-4141 Fax: (312) 263-1180

### http://DSIconsulting.com/

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Case 21-03003-sgj Doc 155 Filed 01/20/22 Entered 01/20/22 22:22:12 Desc Main Case 3:21-cv-00881-X Docum Docum Docum Filed 01/20/24 Entered 01/20/22 22:22:12 Desc Main Case 3:21-cv-00881-X Docum Docu

From: Frank Waterhouse < F Waterhouse @ Highland Capital.com > To: Kristin Hendrix < K Hendrix @ Highland Capital.com >

Subject: Re: Wires for today

Date: Wed, 23 Dec 2020 11:05:46 -0600

Importance: Normal
Inline-Images: image001.jpg

Ok

On Dec 23, 2020, at 11:00 AM, Kristin Hendrix wrote:

<u> HCM</u>			
HCM Ins	USD	49,213.01	health insurance premium funding
EAC	USD	36,000.00	Retainer Invoice; approved by Seery
		,	, 11
<b>HCMFA</b>			
HCM Ins	USD	8,686.93	health insurance premium funding
ACA	USD	375.00	
Principal	0.02	0.0.00	
Life	USD	71.53	
	<b>4</b>		
<u>NPA</u>			
HCM Ins	USD	20,079.46	health insurance premium funding
	0.52	20,0750	nous insulative promising
HCFD			
<u>Oper</u>			
<u> </u>			
HCM Ins	HSD	26 339 40	health insurance premium funding
HCM Ins	USD	26,339.40	health insurance premium funding
	USD	26,339.40	health insurance premium funding
HCM Ins  EEA  HCM Ins	USD	26,339.40 1,161.82	health insurance premium funding health insurance premium funding

Okay to release?

Kristin Hendrix, CPA | Assistant Controller

300 Crescent Court | Suite 700 | Dallas, Texas 75201

O: 972.628.4127 | F: 972.628.4147

khendrix@highlandcapital.com | www.highlandcapital.com



# Exhibit E

Case 21-03003-sgj Doc 155 Filed 01/20/22 Entered 01/20/22 22:22:12 Desc Main Case 3:21-cv-00881-X Docum Docum Docum Filed 01/20/22 Entered 01/20/22 22:22:12 Desc Main Case 3:21-cv-00881-X Docum Docu

**From:** Frank Waterhouse < FWaterhouse@HighlandCapital.com> **To:** Kristin Hendrix < KHendrix@HighlandCapital.com>

Subject: Re: Wires for today

Date: Thu, 31 Dec 2020 12:13:42 -0600

Importance: Normal

Ok

<u>Falcon</u> <u>E&P</u>

**HCM** 

USD

15,000.00 Dec shared services

On Dec 31, 2020, at 12:11 PM, Kristin Hendrix wrote:

<u>HCM</u>			
Meta-e	USD	360,384.10	approved by Seery
Houlihan Lokey	USD	41,460.00	approved by Seery
Bloomberg Finance LP	USD	16,491.04	approved by Seery
Arris Western Corp.	USD	11,000.00	approved by Seery
TW Telecom Holdings, llc	USD	6,182.17	approved by Seery
			final Garden leave payment (processed outside of
Mauro Staltari	USD	3,299.50	payroll)
Canteen Vending Services	USD	2,243.84	approved by Seery
Shawn Raver		1,984.95	approved by Seery
Four Seasons Plantscaping	USD	481.71	approved by Seery
Action Shred of Texas	USD	450.00	approved by Seery
ProStar Services, Inc	USD	367.38	approved by Seery
UPS Supply Chain Solutions	USD	164.31	approved by Seery
<u>HCMFA</u>			
Shawn Raver	USD	4,631.55	
DTCC ITP LLC	USD	892.88	
NPA	ì		
Bloomberg Finance LP	USD	26,177.78	
DST Asset Manager Solutions	USD	17,152.20	
Dallas Zoological Society	USD	9,404.00	
AnchorsGordan, PA	USD	1,605.75	
Dow Jones & Company, Inc.		1,599.00	
UPS Supply Chain Solutions	USD	521.37	
CHASE COURIERS, INC	USD	24.48	
HCFD Oper			
Highland Capital Management Fund			
Advisors	USD	64,562.00	Nov shared services
DST Technologies, Inc.	USD	5,741.59	
UPS Supply Chain Solutions	USD	114.68	
	USD	114.00	



# Exhibit F

# IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS DALLAS DIVISION

In re:	 §
	§ Chapter 11
HIGHLAND CAPITAL	<b>§</b>
MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	<b>§</b> Case No. 19-34054-sgj11
5.1	<b>§</b>
Debtor.	§
	§
HIGHLAND CAPITAL	<b>§</b>
MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§
Distriction	§
Plaintiff,	§ 8
VS.	\$ \$ \$
vs.	8
NEXPOINT ADVISORS, L.P., JAMES	§ Adversary Proceeding No
DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND	
THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT	_
TRUST,	§
	\$ \$ \$
Defendants.	§
	§
HIGHLAND CAPITAL	§ Adversary Proceeding No
MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC.,	§ 21-03006
JAMES DONDERO, NANCY	§ 2
DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST,	§ §
INVESTMENT TRUST,	<b>§</b>
Defendants.	\$ \$
Defendants.	\$ \$
HCRE PARTERS, LLC (N/K/A/	§ Adversary Proceeding No.
NEXPOINT REAL ESTATE	§ 21-03007
PARTNERS, LLC), JAMES DONDERO	
NANCY DONDERO, AND THE	§
DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST,	§ § §
Defendants.	<b>§</b>

EXPERT REPORT OF STEVEN J. PULLY, CPA, CFA, ESQ.

December 10, 2021

Confidential

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#### I. BACKGROUND AND QUALIFICATIONS

- 1. My professional background includes over thirty-six years of experience as an investment banker, corporate board member, corporate executive, hedge fund executive, attorney, consultant, and expert witness.
- 2. I graduated with honors from Georgetown University in 1982 with a BSBA in Accounting, and I graduated from The University of Texas at Austin in 1985 with a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree. I hold the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) designation and am a licensed CPA and attorney in the State of Texas. I also hold the Series 7, 63, and 79 FINRA securities licenses<sup>1</sup>. My CFA designation and my law, CPA, and FINRA licenses are all current.
- 3. I currently work as a corporate executive, as a corporate board member, as an investment banker, and as an expert witness.
  - a. I work on a part-time basis as the Chief Executive Officer of Harvest Oil & Gas, a former public company that is in the process of dissolving. I was Chairman of the Board of Harvest before assuming the Chief Executive Officer role. Until recently, Harvest was largely managed by another company pursuant to a services agreement. When the services agreement was entered into, the services provider and the predecessor of Harvest were affiliates, which they ceased to be during the term of the agreement. Services provided under the agreement included treasury, accounting, and operating functions. One of my roles as Chief Executive Officer is to replace the former service provider by bringing most business functions inhouse.
  - b. I currently serve on the boards of seven private companies. I am typically appointed to boards by large shareholders. In total, I have been on the boards of thirty-two public and private companies. Those companies have operated in a broad cross section of industries, including agriculture, aviation, energy, entertainment, manufacturing, real estate, refining, retail, restaurants, technology, and telecom. I have served on the boards of companies that have outsourced most of their corporate functions or provided outsourcing services for other companies.
  - c. I conduct my investment banking work through Speyside Partners, LLC ("Speyside Partners"), an entity that I co-founded.<sup>2</sup> At Speyside I work on mergers, acquisitions and divestitures, financings, and restructurings.
- 4. Through the end of 2014, I spent thirteen years working for two different hedge funds. I was the General Counsel and a partner of Carlson Capital, the most recent hedge fund for which I worked. Carlson Capital managed approximately \$9 billion across a number of different funds during much of my tenure and followed a multi-strategy investing approach. Prior to working at Carlson Capital, I worked for Newcastle Capital Management, a hedge fund that pursued a deep value and activist investment strategy. I was the President of Newcastle Capital

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> I formerly held the Series 24 FINRA license.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The website for Speyside Partners is <u>www.speysidepartners.com</u>.

Management and worked there for almost six years. Newcastle Capital Management managed as much as \$650 million across a variety of funds while I was employed there. During my tenure, I served as the Chief Executive Officer of two companies controlled by the firm. Both Carlson Capital and Newcastle Capital Management had "shared-services" arrangements, where a separate entity provided a variety of back office, mid-office, and front office services to an affiliated party.

- 5. Prior to becoming a hedge fund executive, I was an investment banker for approximately twelve years at various large firms, including as a Managing Director for Bank of America Securities and as a Senior Managing Director for Bear Stearns. I also worked as an investment banker at Kidder Peabody, PaineWebber, and Wasserstein Perella. Over the course of my work at large investment banking firms, I focused on mergers, acquisitions, divestitures, capital raising, and restructurings.
- 6. Prior to becoming an investment banker, I was a securities and corporate lawyer for almost four years at Baker Botts.
- 7. Based on the work that I have done over the past thirty-six years, I have developed a deep understanding of services agreements and outsourcing generally as well as corporate governance-related matters. I applied the knowledge and experience that I have gained over the past thirty-six years to my analysis in this report.
- 8. I have previously served as a testifying and/or consulting witness in the following actions:
  - a. Ascent Resources Utica, LLC (f/k/a American Energy Utica, LLC); Ascent Resources, LLC (f/k/a American Energy Appalachia Holdings, LLC); Ascent Resources Utica Holdings, LLC (f/k/a American Energy Ohio Holdings, LLC); The Energy & Minerals Group Fund III, LP; EMG Fund III Offshore Holdings, LP; FR AEU Holdings, LLC and FR AE Marcellus Holdings, LLC v. Duane Morris LLP, in the 165<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court of Harris County, Cause No. 2015-46550) Consulting and Testifying witness for Plaintiffs.
  - b. *In re Paladin Energy Corp.*, Case No. 16-13590, in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Texas, Dallas Division Consulting and Testifying witness for Debtor.
  - c. In re: Potential Complaint Against Larry Noble, Noble Operating, LLC, Noble Natural Resources, L.L.C. and Javier Urias to Avoid Transfers Testifying witness for Potential Defendants.
  - d. James D. Sallah, not individually but solely in his capacity as Corporate Monitor for OM Global Investment Fund LLC and OM Global LP, Plaintiff, v. BGT Consulting, LLC, d/b/a BGT Fund Administration, and Lara Goldberg, Defendants Testifying witness on behalf of Defendants BGT Consulting, LLC, d/b/a BGT Fund Administration and Lara Goldberg.
  - e. Kenneth A. Kristofek, Gruene Interests, LLC and Gruene Interests Services, LLC, Gran Toro Rojo, LLC, and Gruene USFC, LLC, v. David Gunderson, Horace Winchester, Stan

Bradshaw, and Jerry Williamson, Gruenepointe Holdings, LLC, Adora 8, LLC, Adora 9, LLC, Adora 10, LLC, Adora 14 Realty, LLC, Onpointe Healthcare Development, LLC, U.S. Freedom Capital Holdings, LLC, Lake Ohana, LLC, U.S. Freedom Capital, LLC, and Encantado Investments, LLC, in the District Court of Dallas County, Texas, No. DC-16-07674 — Testifying witness on behalf of Plaintiffs.

- f. *In re SunEdison Securities Litigation*, in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York, 16-md-2742-PKC Testifying witness on behalf of Plaintiffs.
- g. Avid Controls, Inc. v. GE Energy Power Conversion Technology, Ltd.; General Electric Company; and Current Power Solutions, Inc., In the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas Houston Division, Civil Action No. 4:19-CV-01076 Testifying witness on behalf of Plaintiff.
- h. Lumos Partners, LLC, Claimant v. VAC-TRON EQUIPMENT, L.L.C., Respondent, In Arbitration before the American Arbitration Association Testifying witness on behalf of Claimant.
- Lord Abbett Affiliated Fund, Inc., et al., Individually and On Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated, Plaintiffs, v. Navient Corporation, et al., Defendants, Case No. 1:16-cv-112-GMS, in the United States District Court for the District of Delaware, Case No. 1:16-cv-112-MN — Testifying witness on behalf of Plaintiff.
- j. Southland National Insurance Corporation in Rehabilitation, Bankers Life Insurance Company in Rehabilitation, Colorado Bankers Life Insurance Company in Rehabilitation, and Southland National Reinsurance Corporation in Rehabilitation, Plaintiffs, v. Greg E. Lindberg, Academy Association, Inc., Edwards Mill Asset Management, LLC, New England Capital, LLC and Private Bankers Life and Annuity Co., Ltd., Defendants, in the General Court of Justice Superior Court Division, 19 CV 13093 —Testifying witness on behalf of Defendants.
- k. Baylor University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Plaintiffs, v. Harold E. Riley Foundation and Mike C. Hughes, Defendants, in the District Court of Tarrant County, Texas, 67<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Testifying witness on behalf of Defendants.
- 1. Advsr, LLC, Plaintiff, v. Magisto, Ltd. And Yahal Zilka, Defendants, in the United States District Court, Northern District of California, San Francisco Division, Case No. 3:19-cv-2670 Testifying witness on behalf of Defendants.
- m. Lumos Partners, LLC, Claimant v. Altavian, Inc., In Arbitration before the American Arbitration Association Testifying witness on behalf of Claimant.
- n. Fouad Saade; and Kobi Electric, LLC, Claimants, v. Woodbridge International LLC, f/k/a Woodbridge Group, LLC; and Texender "Tex" Sekhon, Respondents, In Arbitration before the American Arbitration Association Testifying witness on behalf of Claimant.
- 9. I have attached a copy of my curriculum vitae as Exhibit A to this expert report ("Report").

#### II. ENGAGEMENT

- 10. Highland Capital Management, L.P., is the debtor in the bankruptcy proceeding, *In re: Highland Capital Management, L.P., Debtor*, and is referred to herein as the "Debtor" or the "Plaintiff." I have been engaged in the matters related to the bankruptcy proceeding that are listed below (collectively referred to as the "Actions").
  - a. HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P., Plaintiff, vs. NEXPOINT ADVISORS, L.P., JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST, Defendants, Adversary Proceeding No. 21-03005, as a consulting and testifying expert witness on behalf of NexPoint Advisors, L.P. ("NexPoint"), and James Dondero ("Dondero" and NexPoint are collectively referred to as the "NexPoint Defendants").
  - b. HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P., Plaintiff, vs. HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC., JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST, Defendants, Adversary Proceeding No. 21-03006, as a consulting and testifying expert witness on behalf of Highland Capital Management Services, Inc. ("HCMS"), and Dondero (Dondero and HCMS are collectively referred to as the "HCMS Defendants").
  - c. HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P., Plaintiff, vs. HCRE PARTERS, LLC (N/K/A/ NEXPOINT REAL ESTATE PARTNERS, LLC), JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST, Defendants, Adversary Proceeding No. 21-03007, as a consulting and testifying expert witness on behalf of HCRE Partners, LLC ("HCRE"), and Dondero (Dondero and HCRE are collectively referred to as the "HCRE Defendants").
  - d. The NexPoint Defendants, the HCMS Defendants, and the HCRE Defendants are collectively referred to as the "Defendants."
- 11. The Plaintiff has made claims against the Defendants for breach of contract, turnover of property, fraudulent transfer, and breach of fiduciary duty.
- 12. My engagement is through the law firms of Munsch Hardt Kopf & Harr, P.C. ("Munsch Hardt") and Stinson LLP ("Stinson"), which are acting as counsel to the Defendants. I am being compensated for my time at the rate of \$750.00 per hour. My compensation is not in any way contingent on (i) the opinions I express in this Report or any additional report, (ii) the content of any testimony I may give, or (iii) the outcome of the Action.
- 13. I have met with Dondero as well as D. J. Sauter, who is the General Counsel of NexPoint. I have also met with attorneys from counsel to the Defendants: Munsch Hardt, and Stinson.
- 14. I was asked to provide my opinion regarding whether it was appropriate for the Plaintiff to not pay the interest and principal on the Notes (as hereinafter defined) on behalf of NexPoint, HCMS and HCRE (collectively, the "Makers") by December 31, 2020.

#### **III.BRIEF SUMMARY OF OPINIONS**

- 15. I believe that the Plaintiff did not act reasonably by failing to pay amounts due on the Notes on behalf of the Makers by December 31, 2020, and otherwise in how it comported itself with respect to the Notes. Section 6.01 of the NexPoint Services Agreement (as hereinafter defined) sets forth a standard of care that the Plaintiff was supposed to comply with in paying the NexPoint Term Note; I also believe that each of the services agreements between the Plaintiff and the Makers required the Plaintiff to act in a reasonable way.
- 16. In forming my opinions and preparing this Report, I relied on all the materials listed in <u>Exhibit</u> B or otherwise cited herein as well as my background and personal experiences.
- 17. In offering my opinions, I am not opining on the legal enforceability of any agreements between the parties to the Actions.
- 18. I reserve the right to amend my Report should new information become available, including any assertions of the parties, witnesses, or any experts made in response to this Report.

#### IV. ASSUMPTIONS

- 19. The Debtor filed for bankruptcy on October 16, 2019. During the Debtor's bankruptcy, James Seery ("Seery") served as the Chief Executive Officer and/or Chief Restructuring Officer of the Debtor.
- 20. The Debtor was formerly managed by Dondero, who was the firm's co-founder and was its President until January 9, 2020, at which time he resigned all positions with the Debtor and also relinquished control of the Debtor.<sup>3</sup> As of October 9, 2020, Dondero ceased to have any involvement as an officer or director of the Debtor.<sup>4</sup> Dondero also testified that there was tension between Seery and him as well as Seery and others at Highland.<sup>5</sup>
- 21. During 2020, the relationship between Dondero and the Plaintiff became increasingly adversarial. For example, in addition to Dondero ceasing to have any involvement as an officer or director of the Plaintiff, there were various adversarial proceedings between the parties.<sup>6</sup>
- 22. NexPoint, HCMS and HCRE executed certain notes in favor of the Debtor as described below:
  - a. NexPoint executed a promissory note in the original principal amount of \$30,746,812.33, and payable in thirty annual installments beginning by December 31, 2017 (the "NexPoint Term Note"). The NexPoint Note was fully payable in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Dondero Deposition, Volume 2, Page 291, lines 9 – 12.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> *Id.* at Page 374, lines 8 − 10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> *Id.* at page 87, lines 8 - 14.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See, e.g., Id. at page 374, lines 6 - 9.

Amended Complaint dated August 27, 2021 (the "NexPoint Amended Complaint"), filed by Highland Capital Management, L.P. as plaintiff against defendants, NexPoint Advisors, L.P., James Dondero, Nancy Dondero, and The Dugaboy Investment Trust at 2.

- the event of default.<sup>8</sup> As of December 31, 2020, \$23,610,194.59 of principal remained outstanding on the NexPoint Term Note.<sup>9</sup>
- b. HCMS executed a term note in the original principal amount of \$20,247,628.02 and payable in thirty annual installments beginning on December 31, 2017 (the "HCMS Term Note"). The HCMS Term Note was fully payable in the event of default. 11
- c. HCRE executed a term note in the original principal amount of \$6,059,831.51 and payable in thirty annual installments beginning on December 31, 2017 (the "HCRE Term Note"). The HCRE Term Note was fully payable in the event of default. 13
- 23. The Debtor and the Makers were all involved in the investment management business, collectively managing billions of dollars on behalf of investors at various points over the course of their relationship with each other. At the time that the NexPoint Term Note, the HCMS Term Note, and the HCRE Term Note (collectively, the "Notes") were entered into, the Plaintiff, NexPoint, HCMS, and HCRE were all related parties as a result of overlapping equity ownership of the entities. As of December 31, 2020, NexPoint, HCMS, and HCRE ceased to have any overlapping equity ownership with the Plaintiff but continued to have overlapping ownership with each other.
- 24. The Plaintiff and NexPoint are parties to an Amended and Restated Shared Services Agreement dated January 1, 2018 (the "NexPoint Services Agreement") pursuant to which Plaintiff provided a broad array of services to NexPoint. NexPoint operated its business with a small number of employees, relying on Plaintiff's much larger workforce to provide many key services for NexPoint to run its business. The NexPoint Services Agreement details numerous areas where the Plaintiff was to provide services to NexPoint, with the Plaintiff essentially providing the entire workforce for most areas of NexPoint's business. The areas that the Plaintiff provided services to NexPoint were detailed under the following headings in the NexPoint Services Agreement: Back- and Middle-Office, Legal Compliance/Risk Analysis, Tax, Management of Clients and Accounts, Valuation, Execution and Documentation, Marketing, Reporting, Administrative Services, Ancillary Services, and Other. The NexPoint Services Agreement essentially covered all functional areas of NexPoint's business other than the executive and investment functions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> NexPoint Amended Complaint, Exhibit 3. Additionally, I am informed that there was the potential for forgiveness of the Notes in certain circumstances that had also not occurred by December 31, 2020.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> D-NNI -074142.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Amended Complaint dated August 27, 2021 ("HCMS Amended Complaint"), filed by Highland Capital Management, L.P. as plaintiff against defendants, Highland Capital Management Services, Inc., James Dondero, Nancy Dondero, and The Dugaboy Investment Trust at 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> HCMS Amended Complaint, Exhibit 6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Amended Complaint dated August 27, 2021 ("HCRE Amended Complaint"), filed by Highland Capital Management, L.P. as plaintiff against defendants, HCRE Partners, LLC, James Dondero, Nancy Dondero, and The Dugaboy Investment Trust at 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> HCRE Amended Complaint, Exhibit 6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Amended and Restated Services Agreement dated January 1, 2018, Exhibit 9 to Seery Deposition.

 $<sup>^{15}</sup>$  *Id.* at pages 3 - 5.

- 25. The NexPoint Services Agreement contains several provisions relating to the Plaintiff's obligation to make interest and principal payments on the NexPoint Term Note, including the following:
  - a. Section 2.02(a) details various "Back and Middle Office" tasks that the Plaintiff was responsible for performing on behalf of NexPoint. Those services included "payments," which encompassed payments of interest and principal on the NexPoint Term Note.
  - b. Section 2.02 (b) provided for the Plaintiff to provide "[a]ssistance and advice with respect to legal issues...". 18
  - c. Section 6.01 describes the standard of care that the Plaintiff was supposed to provide to NexPoint.<sup>19</sup> The provision provides that the Plaintiff "shall discharge its duties under this Agreement with the care, skill, prudence and diligence under the circumstances then prevailing that a prudent person acting in a like capacity and familiar with such matters would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims."
  - d. Section 8.01 required that any amendments or modifications to the agreement were required to be in writing and signed by each party.<sup>20</sup>
  - e. Section 8.07 provided that any "condition or obligation imposed upon any Party may be waived only upon the written consent of the Parties."<sup>21</sup>
- 26. The Plaintiff first sought to provide notice of termination of the NexPoint Services Agreement in November of 2020, however, the termination date was extended<sup>22</sup> and the NexPoint Services Agreement was still in effect as of December 31, 2020.
- 27. While there was no written agreement between either HCMS or HCRE, on the one hand, and the Plaintiff, on the other hand, relating to services that the Plaintiff was to supply to either party, the services that the Plaintiff provided to HCMS and HCRE were essentially the same services that the Plaintiff provided to NexPoint<sup>23</sup> and involved a comprehensive array of services that were necessary in the day-to-day operations of the business of HCMS and HCRE. Like with NexPoint, by December 31, 2020, there was a long history of the Plaintiff having provided services to HCMS and HCRE.<sup>24</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> *Id.* at pages 3 - 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> *Id.*, Section 2.02(a) provided, "Back- and Middle Office. Assistance and advice with respect to back- and middle-office functions including, but not limited to . . . finance and accounting, payments, operation, bookkeeping, cash management . . . accounts payable . . ."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> *Id.* at page 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> *Id.* at 11.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> *Id.* at 14.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> *Id*. at 16.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Dondero Deposition, Volume 2, page 375, lines 3-10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> See, e.g., Dondero Deposition, Volume 2, page 335, line 19 to page 336, line 13; Waterhouse Deposition, page 353, lines 6 - 10, page 357, lines 19 - 24.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Dondero Deposition, Volume 2, page 94, lines 20 - 22; page 95, lines 4 - 9.

28. When asked about whether the Plaintiff had a services agreement with HCMS, Dondero replied as follows during his deposition<sup>25</sup>:

My answer would be the advisors like NexPoint and HFAM that had to have by law and regulatory statute have to have formal sub advisors and shared services agreements had formal shared services agreement. Entities that didn't need to have formal written shared services agreements were often serviced similarly or -- or exactly the same as those entities, but without a written agreement, but with a verbal shared services agreement providing, again, all the same similar services, and the entities that didn't have a written shared services agreement ·weren't getting shared services or support from any other entities other than Highland doing the same thing for them that it did for the mutual funds.

- 29. Dondero had a similar response with regard to there being an oral agreement for the Plaintiff to provide services to HCRE.<sup>26</sup>
- 30. There was extensive testimony about the services that the Plaintiff provided to HCMS and HCRE:
  - a. Under the oral agreements to provide services to HCMS and HCRE, the Plaintiff was responsible for making payments of interest and principal on the HCMS Notes and the HCRE Notes, which had previously been made by December 31, 2017, 2018, and 2019.<sup>27</sup>
  - b. HCMS and HCRE relied on the Plaintiff to provide services because HCMS and HCRE, like NexPoint, did not have the employees or infrastructure to run its business without the services provided by the Plaintiff.<sup>28</sup>
  - c. According to Frank Waterhouse ("Waterhouse"), the Chief Financial Officer of the Plaintiff throughout 2020<sup>29</sup>, the Plaintiff provided the same services to HCRE and HCMSS that it did for NexPoint.<sup>30</sup> He also specifically testified that Plaintiff's services included timely paying of bills and loan payments for HCMS<sup>31</sup> and the same bill paying for HCRE that it did for HCMS and NexPoint.<sup>32</sup>
- 31. Interest and principal were due on the Notes by December 31, 2020. Neither interest nor any principal payments were paid on any of the Notes by December 31, 2020. The Plaintiff was supposed to facilitate these payments even though the payments were supposed to be to itself.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Dondero Deposition, Volume 2, page 335, line 19 to page 336, line 13.

 $<sup>^{26}</sup>$  *Id.* at page 381, lines 10 – 23.

 $<sup>^{27}</sup>$  Waterhouse Deposition, page 354, lines 2 – 23, page 357, lines 2 – 18.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Dondero Deposition, Volume 2, page 371, lines 5-9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Waterhouse Deposition, page 28, lines 15-16.

 $<sup>^{30}</sup>$  *Id.*, page 353, 6-10; 357: 19 – 24.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> *Id.* at page 354, lines 2 to page 357, line 18.

 $<sup>^{32}</sup>$  *Id.* at page 358, lines 12 - 24.

- 32. On January 7, 2021, the Debtor delivered a letter to each of the Makers (the "Acceleration Letters") indicating that a default had occurred on each of the Notes and demanding the immediate full payment of "all principal, interest, and any other amounts due on the Note…". The effect of the Acceleration Letters was that millions of dollars of principal payments were suddenly due; had the Acceleration Letters not been sent, principal on the Notes would have amortized ratably through 2047.
- 33. In addition to being the Plaintiff's Chief Financial Officer, Waterhouse was also an officer of two of the three Makers as of December 31, 2020.
  - a. He was the Treasurer of NexPoint, an officer-level role, during all periods relevant to my Report. Waterhouse reported at his deposition, "I still manage the finance and accounting function for NexPoint."<sup>34</sup>
  - b. He was the treasurer and acting treasurer of HCMS.<sup>35</sup>
- 34. Plaintiff alleges that Dondero orally instructed Waterhouse to not pay the interest and principal on the NexPoint Term Note that was due on December 31, 2021.<sup>36</sup> No evidence has been presented that suggests that Dondero's alleged instructions for the Plaintiff to not pay interest and principal on the NexPoint Term Note was in writing. The apparent rational for the alleged instruction was that NexPoint believed that there had been substantial overcharges totaling in the millions of dollars by the Plaintiff under the NexPoint Services Agreement. The overcharges related to charges for employees who were no longer working for the Plaintiff but that were still being charged to NexPoint, which was a violation of the NexPoint Services Agreement. Furthermore, Dondero denies that he instructed Waterhouse not to pay the NexPoint Term Note.<sup>37</sup>
  - a. Dondero denies that he instructed that no interest and principal be paid on the NexPoint Term Note, testifying, "There is no logical reason, nor would I have ever authorized or suggested no payment to put us...in default due to a *deminimis* amount of money....even if I was highly annoyed with Seery, even if we knew that Seery and Highland had overcharged NexPoint by whatever it was, 14, 16, million bucks, I would not have let a small amount cause a...breach."<sup>38</sup>
  - b. Dondero also testified that the Plaintiff made the payments due on the Notes by December 31 of 2017, 2018 and 2019 without any specific authorization from any of the Makers.<sup>39</sup>
- 35. No evidence was presented suggesting that Dondero, HCMS or HCRE instructed the Plaintiff not to make payments on the HCMS Term Note or the HCRE Term Note. HCMS and HCRE had a reasonable expectation that interest and principal on the HCMS Notes and HCRE Notes

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> Exhibit 6 to Seery Deposition taken on October 21, 2021.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> Waterhouse Deposition, page 28, lines 15-16.

 $<sup>^{35}</sup>$  *Id.*, at page 30, lines 9 – 16.

 $<sup>^{36}</sup>$  *Id.*, at page 390, lines 4 – 13.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> Dondero Deposition, Volume 2, page 391:18-25.

<sup>38</sup> Id.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> *Id.* at page 463, lines 10-25.

would be paid by December 31, 2020, given past practices and the Plaintiff's obligation to do so.

- 36. Mr. Waterhouse testified about his responsibility in connection with making the payments on the Notes that were due by December 21, 2020<sup>40</sup>:
  - Q: Did you approve of each payment that was made against principal and interest on the notes that were given by the affiliates of Mr. Dondero?
  - A: Did I approve the payments? I approve I approve if there was cash if there was cash being repaid on a note payment, yes, I approved in the general sense of being made aware of the payment and the amount."
  - Q: And are you the person who authorized Highland's employees to effectuate those payments?

A: Yes.

- 37. No evidence has been presented of any discussions that the Plaintiff had with Dondero or any of the Makers prior to December 31, 2020, with regard to payments on the Notes other than the alleged discussion between Dondero and Waterhouse described above relating to the NexPoint Term Note. Specifically, the evidentiary record reflects that there was no follow-up by Waterhouse or anyone else at the Plaintiff confirming that it was Dondero's intent for there not to be any payments made on the NexPoint Term Note.<sup>41</sup>
  - a. A number of Plaintiff's employees knew about Dondero's alleged instructions prior to December 31, 2020, with respect to the NexPoint Term Note, yet no effort was undertaken to investigate Dondero's instructions by speaking with him or otherwise confirming what NexPoint's intent was regarding the NexPoint Term Note.
  - b. Deposition testimony by Kristin Hendrix ("Hendrix"), who was the assistant controller of the Plaintiff at the time, revealed that she knew by November 30, 2020, or December 1, 2020, that the Plaintiff was not going to pay the interest and principal on the NexPoint Term Note that was due by December 31, 2020.<sup>42</sup>
  - c. Waterhouse testified that he did not follow-up with Dondero about whether NexPoint should make the payments required by December 31, 2020.<sup>43</sup>
- 38. Waterhouse also testified that there had not been any instructions from anyone to the Plaintiff to not make the required payments on the HCMS Term Note or the HCRE Term Note by December 31, 2020.<sup>44</sup> When asked about Dondero's tone when he talked to him about the fact that the payments had not been made on the HCMS Term Note and the HCRE Term Note,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> Waterhouse Deposition, page 56, line 21 to page 57, line 10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> *Id.*, at page 391, lines 18 – 21.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> Hendrix Deposition, page 12, lines 4-7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> Waterhouse deposition, pages 391: line 18 to page 392, line 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> Waterhouse Deposition, pages 393, line 21 – 25 to page 394, line 4.

Waterhouse said that the tone was very negative and that Dondero's reaction was consistent with the fact that Dondero was surprised that the payments had not been made. 45

# V. <u>SERVICES AGREEMENTS GENERALLY</u>

- 39. Companies seeking to conduct operations more efficiently frequently outsource various operational, accounting, treasury, and other functions to a service provider. By outsourcing such functions, the customer of the services provider can avoid costly employee and infrastructure investments that would otherwise be required to conduct the outsourced functions.
- 40. The agreement between the party receiving the services and the party providing the services is often referred to as a "services agreement," an "outsourcing agreement," or a "shared services agreement." These terms have the same meaning for purposes of this Report although the term "shared services" is often used in the context of a company sharing services with an affiliated party.
- 41. The parties to a services agreement are sometimes related and other times are completely separate with no prior business relationship.
- 42. The actual agreement that comprises the services to be provided under a services agreement varies in form. Some services agreements are comprehensive, others provide limited written direction, and still others are oral.
- 43. Smaller companies are often more likely to outsource a broad set of business functions, typically because they are growing rapidly and do not have the financial resources or time to build out various important business functions.
- 44. Virtually every company outsources some type of business function to a third-party. For example, many companies outsource limited functions such as payroll processing or IT services to various vendors. There is a distinct difference, however, between outsourcing limited functions to a vendor that provides services for many clients versus the more fulsome relationship that is embodied by the typical services agreement involving the services provider managing major aspects of a company's operational and back-office functions.
  - a. Providers of more fulsome services have additional duties relative to a provider that is responsible for limited services. Those additional duties generally emanate from the level of responsibility that the services provider takes on and the services provider's more intimate knowledge of its customer's business.
  - b. Said another way, a provider of a straightforward and often outsourced service such as payroll processing has no reason to understand the underlying business issues of its customers or the perspectives of the employees for which it processes payroll. On the other hand, a provider of more fulsome services has an intimate knowledge

 $<sup>^{45}</sup>$  *Id.* at page 394, lines 12 - 21.

of the goals, objectives, and capabilities of its customers and in discharging its obligations, cannot ignore that knowledge.

- 45. In the case of services agreements that cover a fulsome set of activities for the customer, even if there is a comprehensive agreement between the parties, it is difficult to enumerate with specificity each individual task that the services provider is expected to perform. Tasks are therefore often described in broad terms as opposed to specific detail (i.e., the service provider is required to handle accounting functions for its customer as opposed to saying that a trial balance is required 15 days after month-end, or the annual audit must be completed by a specified date).
  - a. Despite the difficulty in describing each task with specificity that the services provider is required to perform, the specific tasks become apparent as the services provider performs functions on behalf of its customer. In the ordinary course, practices develop that inevitably are deemed acceptable to the services provider and its customer. Such practices are generally fully clarified within one year of the inception of the services agreement because that timeframe allows the parties to interact with each other over the course of a full accounting cycle.
  - b. Following the initial cycle of activities, those previously performed practices are often referred to as "past practices" and such past practices become an important piece in gauging whether the services provider has met it obligations in future periods. Having been affiliated with companies that are customers of services providers, I think of past practices as having virtually the same effect as a written document provided that the services agreement is not written in a way that prohibits such an interpretation.
- 46. Services agreements between related parties often present complicated issues, especially if the relationship changes between the parties during the term of the services agreement. For example, at the beginning of the term of the services agreement, two related parties might constructively work together, almost obviating the need for a detailed agreement between the parties. If there is a change in the relationship between the parties that leads to less cooperation, the original agreement may not be comprehensive enough to optimally deal with the change in circumstances.
  - a. In such situations, past practices can become an even more important factor in determining the services provider's obligations and the reasonable expectations that the customer should have if the contract language is not explicit on the point.
  - b. While the services provider and a customer that is related at the outset of an agreement may cease to be related at some point during the term of the agreement, the services provider's knowledge of the customer's business objectives does not necessarily become stale immediately upon the change in affiliate status. Consequently, any higher duty that comes about from the knowledge that the services provider has about its customer is not necessarily impacted if the affiliate status of the services provider and its customer changes.

#### VI. OPINIONS

- A. The Plaintiff was obligated to pay interest and principal on the NexPoint Term Note by December 31, 2021, on behalf of NexPoint. Despite the alleged instruction from Dondero that the Plaintiff should not make any payments on NexPoint's behalf, the Plaintiff's obligations to make the payments did not end. At a minimum, the Plaintiff had a duty to investigate whether the payments should have been made, which it did not do. In not making the payments on the NexPoint Term Note and not undertaking steps to further investigate whether the payments should have been made, the Plaintiff did not act reasonably.
- 47. The payment terms of the NexPoint Term Note required that interest and principal was due to the Plaintiff from NexPoint on or before December 31, 2020. It is undisputed that interest and principal were not paid on the NexPoint Term Note by the required date.
- 48. The Plaintiff was obligated to make the payment of interest and principal on behalf of NexPoint on or before December 31, 2020, under the NexPoint Services Agreement.
- 49. The Plaintiff has taken the position that the interest and principal that was due on the NexPoint Term Note by December 31, 2020, was not paid because of Dondero's alleged directive to Waterhouse to not make the payments.<sup>46</sup>
- 50. The evidentiary record highlights several noteworthy facts:
  - a. The Plaintiff had conflicting roles because it was the payee of the NexPoint Term Note and also had the obligation to cause the payments to be made on the NexPoint Term Note. The conflicting roles were also heightened because of the increasingly adversarial role that had developed between the Plaintiff and Dondero.
  - b. The Plaintiff stood to benefit mightily if NexPoint defaulted on the payment of interest or principal, given the Plaintiff's ability to immediately accelerate the payment of the NexPoint Term Note. Without a default, some of the principal of the Notes could have been outstanding until 2047.
  - c. Waterhouse was an officer of the Plaintiff and was also an officer of NexPoint, creating a conflict beyond the conflicts that the Plaintiff had that are described above. Given his dual roles, he had knowledge of the business objectives and financial condition of NexPoint, which should have made it clear to him that NexPoint would not welcome a default on the NexPoint Term Note.
  - d. NexPoint allegedly made overpayments to the Plaintiff that Dondero wanted to be offset against the required interest and principal payments on the NexPoint Term Loan.<sup>47</sup> The overpayments related to workers that the Plaintiff was charging to NexPoint that no longer worked for the Plaintiff, which violated the terms of the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> Waterhouse Deposition, page 390, lines 4 - 13.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> Seery Deposition, page 226, lines 2 – 4; Dondero Deposition, Volume 2, page 392, lines 3 – 7.

- NexPoint Services Agreement. There were ongoing discussions between Dondero and Seery leading up to the end of 2020 relating to the topic.
- e. There is no evidentiary record describing any effort by the Plaintiff to warn NexPoint of the implications of Dondero's alleged request for the payments on the NexPoint Term Note to not be made. For example, despite the fact that the NexPoint Services Agreement required the Plaintiff to provide NexPoint with legal services, the Plaintiff failed to provide NexPoint with legal advice that failing to pay interest and principal could result in an acceleration of the NexPoint Term Loan.
- 51. In my opinion, Dondero's alleged statement to Waterhouse that the Plaintiff should not make payments on the NexPoint Term Note on December 31, 2020, did not provide a basis for the Plaintiff to not make the payments on the Notes given its obligations to NexPoint under the NexPoint Services Agreement. Several reasons support my opinion:
  - a. There is no evidence that the Plaintiff took any reasonable steps to address the myriad of conflicts that it faced.
    - i. The Plaintiff's obligations regarding the required payments of the Notes involved the conflict-ridden task of authorizing and making a payment to itself. Additionally, the Plaintiff stood to benefit significantly by putting the NexPoint Term Note into default given that a default would allow the Plaintiff to realize the proceeds from repayment of the note far earlier than it otherwise would have; had the NexPoint Term Loan not been accelerated, it would have remained outstanding until 2047. While the evidence is silent on whether the Plaintiff was considering the repayment benefit of the NexPoint Term Loan to itself, from an appearance standpoint, the conflict was glaring.
    - ii. The Plaintiff apparently took no steps to address these conflicts either by conferring with NexPoint or Dondero. Conferring with NexPoint or Dondero would have helped in establishing that NexPoint and Dondero really did not want the Plaintiff to transfer funds to pay interest and principal on the NexPoint Term Loan.
    - iii. The Plaintiff also has presented no evidentiary record reflecting how any internal steps were taken to address the conflict. Such steps might have included conducting meetings internally with minutes to reflect discussion regarding the conflict or any efforts to seek guidance from counsel to assist with the conflict.
    - iv. According to deposition testimony by Hendrix, who was the assistant controller of the Plaintiff at the time<sup>48</sup>, she recalled receiving a phone call from Waterhouse on either November 30, 2020, or December 1, 2020, where Waterhouse indicated that no payments would made by the Plaintiff

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> Hendrix Deposition, page 12, lines 4-7.

on behalf of NexPoint.<sup>49</sup> Accordingly, it seems that Plaintiff decided as early November 30, 2020 or December 1, 2020, to not make the payments on the NexPoint Term Note. Given the apparent time frame of the decision to not make the payment, the Plaintiff had ample time to confirm in writing with Dondero that the payments should not be made or to otherwise take reasonable steps to ensure that a mistake was not being made and that the Plaintiff was acting reasonably.

- b. The Plaintiff had an obligation to act reasonably in discharging its obligations to make the payments on the NexPoint Term Note on behalf of NexPoint. In addition to not properly addressing conflicts as set forth above, the evidentiary record further reflects that the Plaintiff did not act reasonably.
  - i. No effort was undertaken to inform Dondero that the Plaintiff disagreed with his assumption that there were offsets to the required interest and principal payment requirements on the NexPoint Term Note. Absent any communication from the Plaintiff, Dondero simply had no way of knowing that the Plaintiff disagreed with his perspective that a right of offset did exist, so it was reasonable for him to think that discussion of an offset was on the table.
  - ii. Waterhouse had worked for or with Dondero for many years, making him very familiar with Dondero's management style. Dondero is a decisionmaker who is willing and does change his mind when presented with new facts, something that Waterhouse should have been aware of yet did nothing to address.
  - iii. Given the massive implications of a default of the NexPoint Term Loan to NexPoint, which the Plaintiff should have understood given the robust services that it was providing to NexPoint and the dual financial responsibilities that Waterhouse had to both organizations, the Plaintiff should have acted more responsibly by engaging with NexPoint and Dondero to confirm NexPoint's intent.
  - iv. The NexPoint Services Agreement provides that the Plaintiff was supposed to provide NexPoint with legal advice. In effect, the Plaintiff was NexPoint's law firm. Had the Plaintiff met its commitment, it would have had its internal counsel consult with NexPoint to point out the legal ramifications of the interest and principal payments not being made. There is no evidence suggesting that the Plaintiff took any steps to meet its obligation to provide legal advice as required under the NexPoint Services Agreement.
- c. Waterhouse had a conflict separate from the conflicts that the Plaintiff otherwise had given that he was an officer of both the Plaintiff and the NexPoint. Among

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> *Id.* at 71, lines 4-7.

other things, Waterhouse's officer role for NexPoint must have provided him with insights into NexPoint's business objectives, which could not have included any appetite for having the Notes accelerated. Yet there is no evidence that Waterhouse's knowledge was utilized in Plaintiff's decision making regarding the required payments of the Notes. It is inapposite to argue that because Waterhouse had knowledge about NexPoint from a source other than the Plaintiff, that he was entitled to ignore that knowledge. In discharging its duties under the NexPoint Services Agreement, the Plaintiff should have been using all information that it had available in its work on behalf of NexPoint.

- d. The NexPoint Services Agreement provided that any amendment to the agreement needed to be in writing<sup>50</sup> and any consent to a change in the agreement needed to be in writing.<sup>51</sup> No such effort to comply with the writing requirement was undertaken and highlights the fact that any oral statement by Dondero regarding the NexPoint Term Loan not being paid was insufficient under the express terms of the NexPoint Services Agreement.
- e. Section 6.01 of the NexPoint Services Agreement also describes the standard of care that the Plaintiff was supposed to provide to NexPoint in the discharge of its obligations under the agreement.<sup>52</sup> The provision provides that the Plaintiff "shall discharge its duties under this Agreement with the care, skill, prudence and diligence under the circumstances then prevailing that a prudent person acting in a like capacity and familiar with such matters would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims." For reasons already described herein, the Plaintiff did not discharge its duties with such care.
- 52. For the foregoing reasons, any alleged default under the NexPoint Term Note was the result of the Plaintiff's own negligence and misconduct, which underscores that Plaintiff did not act reasonably in the discharge of its obligations to NexPoint.
  - B. Based on the oral agreement that the Plaintiff had with HCMS and HCRE and consistent with the services that the Plaintiff had previously provided, HCMS and HCRE had a reasonable expectation that the Plaintiff would continue paying interest and principal on behalf of those entities absent explicit direction to the contrary. As there was no directive from anyone affiliated with HCMS or HCRE to relieve the Plaintiff of that responsibility, the Plaintiff did not act reasonably by not meeting its obligations to make payments of interest and principal on behalf of HCMS and HCRE.
- 53. While the services agreements between Plaintiff, on the one hand, and HCMS and HCRE, on the other hand, were oral, the existence of an oral services agreement between affiliated parties involved in the investment management business is common and is something that I have regularly observed.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> Amended Services Agreement, Section 8.01.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> *Id.* at Section 8.07.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup> *Id.* at Section 6.01.

- 54. Like with NexPoint, the Plaintiff provided HCMS and HCRE with a comprehensive array of services that were necessary to the day-to-day operation of their businesses. There was a lengthy history of the Plaintiff providing HCMS and HCRE with such services. The broad array of services provided by the Plaintiff to NexPoint were the same as the scope of work performed by the Plaintiff for HCMS and HCRE.
- 55. The evidentiary record highlights several noteworthy facts:
  - a. The evidentiary record reflects that the Plaintiff historically made payments on behalf of the HCMS Term Note and HCRE Term Note in addition to providing an array of other critical services to HCMS and HCRE not dissimilar from many of the services that the Plaintiff provided to NexPoint under the NexPoint Services Agreement.<sup>53</sup>
  - b. No evidence has been presented suggesting that there was any communication from HCMS, HCRE, or Dondero suggesting that the payments on the HCMS Term Note and the HCRE Term Note should not continue.
  - c. No evidence has been presented suggesting that on payment dates in years prior to 2020 HCMS or HCRE had to notify the Plaintiff that it wanted the Plaintiff to make the required payments on the HCMS Term Note or the HCRE Term Note. Accordingly, it would not have been reasonable for the Plaintiff to expect that HCMS or HCRE were required to take any affirmative steps to have payments made on their notes.
  - d. The Plaintiff had conflicting roles because it was the payee of the HCMS Term Note and the HCRE Term Note and also had the obligation to cause the payments to be made of those notes. The conflicting roles were also heightened because of the increasingly adversarial role that had developed between the Plaintiff and Dondero.
  - e. The Plaintiff stood to benefit mightily if HCMS and HCRE defaulted on the payment of interest or principal, given the Plaintiff's ability to immediately accelerate the payment of those notes. Without a default, some of the principal of the HCMS Term Note and the HCRE Term Note could have been outstanding until 2047.
  - f. Waterhouse was an officer of the Plaintiff and was also an officer of HCMS, creating a conflict beyond the conflicts that the Plaintiff had that are described above. Given Waterhouse's dual roles, he had knowledge of HCMS's business objectives and financial condition, which should have alerted him that HCMS would not welcome a default on the HCMS Term Note.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> See, e.g., Dondero Deposition, Volume 2, pages 335:19 to 336:13; page 381, lines 10-23.

- g. The Plaintiff made no effort to warn HCMS or HCRE of the implications of the Plaintiff not making payments on the HCMS Term Note or HCRE Term Note by December 31, 2020.
- 56. Dondero testified about the payments that were required on the HCMS Term Note by December 31, 2020, indicating that there was an expectation by HCMS that the payments were going to be made, regardless of whether there were specific instructions by HCMS to do so:<sup>54</sup>
  - Q: Okay. Do you know whether anybody acting on behalf of HCMS ever instructed or authorized Highland to make a payment on account of HCMS's term note to Highland?
  - A. Well, again, and maybe I didn't say it clearly enough. I think there was a reliance in the due course aspect, especially on small amounts, and it would have been done by Highland personnel on behalf of Services.

\* \* \* \* \*

- Q. And I'm going to ask you, Mr. Dondero, to be patient with me and to listen carefully to my question. Are you aware of anybody acting on behalf of HCMS, whoever instructed Highland to make a payment in satisfaction of any payment that was due at the year-end of 2020 under the term note?
- A. Not specifically, but I'm saying I don't think it needed to be made specifically.
- 57. The Plaintiff was required to act reasonably in the performance of its obligations to HCMS and HCRE given the record of past practices and the precedent created by similar work done by the Plaintiff for NexPoint. With respect to the payments required under the HCMS Term Note and the HCRE Term Note by the Plaintiff, HCMS and HCRE had a reasonable expectation that they would continue receiving such payment services absent a clear termination by Plaintiff of its obligations to HCMS and HCRE. Given that there is no evidence suggesting that any of the parties had terminated the Plaintiff's obligations to provide services to HCMS and HCRE as of December 31, 2020, especially given that the Plaintiff continued to perform other services on behalf of those entities as of such date, the Plaintiff did not act reasonably by not making the payments on the HCMS Term Note and the HCRE Term Note by December 31, 2021. Likewise, it was also not reasonable for the Plaintiff to not discuss with HCMS and HCRE that payments were not going to be made on the HCMS Term Note and the HCRE Term Note given that payments had been made in prior years without any request by HCMS or HCRE.
- 58. Hendrix testified that the instruction to her not to make the NexPoint Term Loan payment by December 31, 2020, did not apply to the payments required on the HCMS Term Note and the HCRE Term Note by December 31, 2020.<sup>55</sup> She also testified that she made no attempt or effort to determine whether Dondero wanted the payments required on the HCMS Term Note

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> Dondero Deposition, Volume 2, pages 371:23 – 372:18.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> Hendrix Deposition, page 100, lines 20 - 23; page 101, lines 8 - 12.

and the HCRE Term Note to be paid by December 31, 2020.<sup>56</sup> Finally, Hendrix made no attempt to check with anyone whether the payments should be made.<sup>57</sup> Hendrix's testimony underscores that Plaintiff did not act reasonably in discharging its obligations to HCMS and HCRE.

59. For the foregoing reasons, any alleged default under the HCMS Term Note and the HCRE Term Note was the result of the Plaintiff's own negligence and misconduct, which underscores that Plaintiff did not act reasonably in the discharge of its obligations to HCMS and HCRE.

### VII. CONCLUSION

60. In summary, based on the evidence that I have reviewed and relied upon, as well as my training and experience, it is my opinion that the Plaintiff did not act reasonably in choosing not to pay the interest and principal due under the Notes. As a result of Plaintiff's failures to act reasonably, it should not have accelerated payment of the principal amount of the Notes.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven J. Pully, CPA, CFA, ESQ.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>56</sup> *Id.* at page 102, lines 10 - 13.

 $<sup>^{57}</sup>$  *Id.* at page 105, lines 8 – 11.

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#### **STEVEN J. PULLY**

4564 Meadowood Road, Dallas, Texas (214) 587-6133 sjpully@yahoo.com

#### **Employment History**

# October 2014 – Present

# SPEYSIDE PARTNERS/INVESTMENT BANKER/CONSULTANT/BOARD DIRECTOR/CORPORATE EXECUTIVE

- Investment banker/consultant to companies, investors and creditors on matters including capital raising, distressed debt restructurings, asset dispositions, activist investing defense, strategic opportunities, and expert witness matters
- Chief Executive Officer and Chairman, Harvest Oil & Gas (post-reorg)

# January 2008 – Sept. 2014

#### CARLSON CAPITAL, L.P., General Counsel and Partner, Dallas, Texas

- Responsible for legal affairs of hedge fund with over \$9.0 B of AUM;
   worked closely with affiliated oil and gas private equity fund with \$700 of AUM beginning in 2010
- Member of Management, Operating and Valuation Committees (Chair)

# Dec. 2001 – October 2007

#### **NEWCASTLE CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,** President, Dallas, Texas

- Activist fund with \$650 MM of assets under management
- Operating positions for portfolio companies: CEO of Pinnacle Frames, Jan. 2003 – June 2004 (largest domestic picture frame manufacturer with 600 employees; involved in multiple visits to Wal-Mart, visited China and identified new CEO for company); CEO of New Century Equity Holdings, June 2003 – Oct. 2007 (cash shell seeking to acquire business)

May 2000 –	
Dec. 2001	
January 1997 –	
May 2000	

BANC OF AMERICA SECURITIES, Managing Director, Investment Banking -

M&A/ Energy & Power Groups; Houston and Dallas, Texas

**BEAR STEARNS & CO. INC.,** Senior Managing Director - Investment Banking Department; Dallas, Texas

April 1996 – Dec. 1996

**CONVERGENT ASSOCIATES, INC.,** President, Dallas, Texas.

 Private equity firm that controlled three technology-oriented companies involved in travel, media and software; affiliated with EDS

January 1996 -April 1996 **WASSERSTEIN PERELLA & CO., INC.,** Vice President - Investment Banking Department; Dallas, Texas

• Left after brief association because supervisor announced departure plans

July 1989 -Dec. 1995 PAINEWEBBER INCORPORATED/ KIDDER, PEABODY & CO., First Vice President - Investment Banking Department; New York City and Houston, Texas

October 1985 -July 1989 **BAKER & BOTTS, Attorneys,** Associate — Corporate Department; Houston, Texas

#### **Board Experience**

**Board Leadership** - Experience as Lead Director, Chairman of the Board, Executive Committee member and Chairman of Audit, Compensation, Governance and Strategic Committees

**Accounting/Finance** - CPA and CFA certifications, significant experience with financial statements and analysis, member of several audit committees including chair role

**Strategic Transactions/Capital Raising** - Substantial history with successful strategic transactions and efficient capital raising, including debt restructurings

**Governance/Activist Investing Expertise** - Extensive experience with shareholder governance and activist investing/defense; positive reputation with shareholders as a value creator

Legal/Regulatory - Licensed attorney, extensive experience managing legal/compliance department

#### **Public Company Directorships**

**Previous:** Bellatrix Exploration, Energy XXI (Chair – Comp and Strategic), EPL Oil & Gas Inc. (Lead Director, Chair - Comp), Ember Resources, Cano Petroleum, Goodrich Petroleum, Harvest Oil and Gas (Chairman of the Board, Chair – Audit), Peerless Systems (Chair – Audit), New Century Equity Holdings, MaxWorldwide, Geoworks Corporation, Pizza Inn (Chair – Governance), Titan Energy, VAALCO Energy (Chair – Governance, Comp), Whitehall Jewelers (Chairman)

#### **Private Company Directorships**

**Current:** Harvest Oil & Gas (Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer, formerly public company), Limetree Bay Energy, Heritage Power, Response Team 1, Wild Rivers, OWS, ExpressJet **Previous:** Fox & Hound, GenCanna Global, Pinnacle Frames & Accents, Aspire Holdings (Chair – Comp), PermianLide, Tribune Resources (Chair – Audit), PGi, Southland Royalty, Greylock Energy, Karya Properties, PRIMEXX Energy, Titan Energy

#### **Professional Certifications, Education and Other Interests**

CHARTERED FINANCIAL ANALYST, 2004 (Active member), CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT, Texas, 1985 (Active member), STATE BAR OF TEXAS, 1985 (Active member), FINRA Series 7, 63 and 79 (Current)

#### The University of Texas School of Law, 1985

International Law Journal, Moot Court, Board of Advocates

Georgetown University, BSBA with honors, 1982, Major in accounting with 3.90 GPA in major President of Student Government Senate, National Model U.N. Team

Centre for Management Studies, Oxford University, England, Summer 1981

Sailing, golf, writing, biking and travel; married with two adult daughters

Board of Advisors, Georgetown McDonough School of Business, 2015 - 2018

#### **Documents Reviewed**

Complaint for (I) Breach of Contract and (II) Turnover of Property of the Debtor's Estate (Dkt. No. 1, Adv. Proc. No. 21-03004)

Amended Complaint for (I) Breach of Contract, (II) Turnover of Property, (III) Fraudulent Transfer, and (IV) Breach of Fiduciary Duty (Dkt. No. 63, Adv. Proc. No. 21-03005)

Defendant NexPoint Advisors, L.P.'s Answer to Amended Complaint (Dkt. No. 64, Adv. Proc. No. 21-03005)

Amended Complaint for (I) Breach of Contract, (II) Turnover of Property, (III) Fraudulent Transfer, and (IV) Breach of Fiduciary Duty (Dkt. No. 68, Adv. Proc. No. 21-03006)

Highland Capital Management Services, Inc.'s Answer to Plaintiff's Complaint (Dkt. No. 6, Adv. Proc. No. 21-03006)

Defendant Highland Capital Management Services, Inc.'s Answer to Amended Complaint (Dkt. No. 73, Adv. Proc. No. 21-03006)

Amended Complaint for (I) Breach of Contract, (II) Turnover of Property, (III) Fraudulent Transfer, and (IV) Breach of Fiduciary Duty (Dkt. No. 63, Adv. Proc. No. 21-03007)

Defendant HCRE Partners, LLC (n/k/a NexPoint Real Estate Partners, LLC)'s Answer to Amended Complaint (Dkt. No. 68, Adv. Proc. No. 21-03007)

Defendant James Dondero's Answer to Amended Complaint (Dkt. No. 83, Adv. Proc. No. 21-03003)

Remote Videotaped Deposition of Frank Waterhouse, taken October 19, 2021 and Exhibits

Video Deposition of James P. Seery, Jr., taken October 21, 2021 and Exhibits

Deposition of Kristin Hendrix, taken October 27, 2021 and Exhibits

Deposition of David Klos, taken October 27, 2021

Remote Deposition of James Dondero, Volume II, taken October 29, 2021 (Rough draft) and Exhibits

Remote Deposition of James Dondero, Volume III, taken November 4, 2021 (Rough draft) and Exhibits

CORE/3522697.0002/171364362.1 **App. 235** 

# Exhibit G

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# **EXPERT REPORT OF ALAN M. JOHNSON**

MAY 28, 2021

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#### INTRODUCTION

I have been retained by Stinson LLP ("Stinson"), counsel to Mr. James Dondero, to provide expert opinions based on my knowledge and experience advising asset management and other financial service firms on compensation over the period 2013 to 2019. Specifically, I have been asked to independently analyze the competitiveness of compensation provided to Mr. Dondero compared to compensation received by executives and senior employees with similar experience and roles. In addition, I was asked to opine on and provide information on the use of loans in the marketplace as a form of compensation. Mr. Dondero is the Founder and, throughout the period, was the CEO, and head portfolio manager of Highland Capital Management LP ("HCM") and in that role, performed the same services for related companies and companies managed by HCM, including Highland Capital Management Financial Advisors ("HCMFA") and NexPoint Advisors ("NPA"). Market competitive compensation for Mr. Dondero during this period is relevant based on the apparent shortfall in annual compensation to Mr. Dondero. Throughout this period, he received loans in lieu of additional current compensation. Consistent with company practice, the loans were considered a form of deferred compensation that could be realized over time as the loans were forgiven and the income recognized by the individuals.

My opinions in this report are based on my experience consulting on executive compensation since 1980, my review of certain materials produced on Highland and its affiliates, and my perspectives on compensation programs for comparable senior executives and key employees in the industry.

#### BACKGROUND

#### **Professional Experience**

The issues I have been asked to provide opinions on are topics I have regularly encountered during many years of advising financial services firms, including asset management firms. I am an executive compensation consultant, and my firm, Johnson Associates, is a prominent boutique compensation consulting firm. My firm has specialized for many years in analyzing and advising the financial services industry, including major investment and asset management firms, hedge funds and other alternative investment firms, advisory firms, commercial banks, insurance companies, and brokerage firms.

I have extensive experience reviewing and assessing appropriate market levels of compensation for clients. I have worked as a compensation consultant since 1980. In 1992, I founded my own compensation consulting firm, Johnson Associates in New York City. Johnson Associates, where I am currently Managing Director, is a boutique firm specializing in compensation consulting for the financial services industry. We routinely consult on and have a strong understanding of market compensation levels for senior professionals and executives. Prior to founding my own firm, I was a consultant at several leading compensation advisory firms.

Our clients have included many of the world's most significant financial institutions, asset managers and alternative investment firms across a broad range of issues. A summary of my work history and education is attached as Exhibit A. I am regularly quoted on compensation issues in major publications, including *The Wall Street Journal*, *Business Week*, *The New York Times*, *Fortune*, *The Washington Post*, *Bloomberg* and many others.

Over the past 20 years, I have provided expert testimony in more than 40 cases and have been qualified as an expert in the field of executive compensation 30+ times since founding my firm in 1992 (both on the employee and employer side). A list of cases in which I have rendered expert testimony since 2016 is attached as Exhibit B.

#### **Compensation**

I am being compensated at my normal hourly rate of \$715 per hour for preparing this report. My compensation is not contingent on the content of my opinions. I have been assisted in this engagement by my associate, Michael Perniciaro. Michael's normal hourly rate is \$225 per hour. All opinions in this report are my own.

### **Facts and Data Considered**

In preparing this report, I considered certain documents provided to me, interviews with Mr. Dondero and former Highland or affiliate employees. The documents include information about Highland and its related entities, Mr. Dondero's compensation history, and financial statements over the period. Importantly, given the state of document production in this case, I did not receive all the documents typical for an assessment of compensation. The result of which could lead to a conservative bias in my assessment of market competitive compensation. I have evaluated publicly disclosed proxy statements of a select group of Highland peer firms, as well as information from news sources. The information is consistent with the data and outcomes across our client studies.

#### SUMMARY OF OPINIONS

Based on my experience as an executive compensation consultant and my review of the compensation and other documents, it is my opinion that:

- Reasonable compensation for Mr. Dondero's role is positioned well above the market median, toward the market high end. Based on analysis and market research, it is apparent that Mr. Dondero was the key leader of the firm and deeply involved in all its operations, with contributions well beyond the traditional CEO / Chief Investment Officer role at comparators. Competitive market high-end for Mr. Dondero's role is about \$6.0M per year while his actual compensation over the period was an average of about \$3.0M per year. Therefore, the aggregate shortfall in compensation provided to Mr. Dondero against reasonable compensation levels in the market is at least \$21M over the period I examined. Market compensation figures strictly represent Mr. Dondero's managerial responsibilities and does not include any premium as a Founder. Founders are often paid significantly more in the market.
- I understand from Mr. Dondero that the 2018 loans that are the subject of this suit were modified by an agreement in late 2018 or early 2019 under which the loans would be forgiven upon the sale at over cost of substantially all of any of three portfolio company assets held in the Highland platform, MGM, Cornerstone and/or Trussway. Based on interviews from prior employees, the use of forgivable loans was a known business practice at Highland and there was a clear expectation similar loans would be forgiven. Loans are often used both in private firms and more broadly in the market, both as a perk without forgiveness and also with forgiveness as deferred compensation.

While I do not have sufficient data to know the capital in the firm at year end 2018,¹ the substantial amount of capital remaining in the firm at the time of bankruptcy (i.e., ≈ \$399.6M) includes undistributed earnings to its Founders and primary shareholders,
Mr. Dondero and Mr. Okada. For asset management firms, it is market practice to distribute most earnings annually to the firm's equity holders. The retention of the earnings in the business, further illustrate the shortfall in payments made to Mr. Dondero over the period.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>I have been told that the Debtor has not produced much of what was requested by Mr. Dondero and that Mr. Dondero no longer has access to the Highland server. Therefore, I understand, what information he provided was from his own accountants, recollections, and/or from companies over which he still has control.

#### STATEMENT OF OPINIONS

# **Factual Background**

From my review and analysis of available materials and research, I understand the consolidated Highland business ("Highland") is a multi-strategy asset management firm focused on CLOs, hedge funds, and several private investments. Prior to the financial crisis, in 2008, Highland was very successful, reaching its peak revenue and assets under management levels. Looking at the post financial crisis period from 2013 to 2019, Highland continued to operate under the leadership of Mr. Dondero. During this period, several loans were made to Mr. Dondero. Part of my mandate was to assess market compensation levels during this period relative to firms with similar size and earnings. To do so, an assessment of Highland's financial information is necessary. I did not receive all of the financial information for HCM that I would have liked to have had because, I was told, HCM refused to produce most of the documentation requested from it. However, I was able to review the actual financials of HCMFA and NPA, and to obtain information Mr. Dondero possessed and/or recollected. The revenues for HCMFA and NPA ranged from \$30.5M to \$65.9M over the period with assets under management of \$4.7B to \$7.5B. To complete my analysis, Mr. Dondero provided his best recollection of the size and structure of the consolidated three entities stating assets under management from 2013 to 2019 ranging from \$10.0B to \$20.0B, with a primary focus on CLOs and an average of about \$1.0B being in hedge funds. Based on the incomplete nature of my data review, there is a possibility that the market figures provided in this report could be understated based on my conservative approach, relying primarily on the documented data for HCMFA and NPA but only the recollection of Mr. Dondero for HCM, not the actual documentation, such as audited financial statements.

When examining Mr. Dondero's role at Highland relative to others in the market, it is apparent that his contributions and responsibilities exceeded the traditional duties of executive officers and lead investors who are paid significant amounts elsewhere. Mr. Dondero was the key man running daily business and operations, attracting clients, and overall investments. Given his outsized role, it would be reasonable to expect his compensation to be well above the market median. The sources utilized to ascertain specifics of his role and arrive at this conclusion include interviews with former Highland or Highland affiliate employees, as well as articles in the public domain and discussions with Mr. Dondero.

The total annual compensation for Mr. Dondero from 2013 - 2019 was \$3.0M on average and the aggregate compensation over the period was \$21.0M (source: W-2 filings). To assess the compensation in the market and determine the final market range, I utilized three methodologies including: (1) proxy analysis of CEOs at similarly sized, publicly traded asset management firms, (2) market research on Portfolio Manager compensation, (3) top-down analysis of typical percent of revenue allocated to CEO and/or top portfolio managers. Market compensation figures provided in this report strictly represent Mr. Dondero's managerial responsibilities and does not include any premium as a Founder.

To opine on the use of the loans as a form of compensation, I relied on market research, industry expertise, and interviews. My findings from this assessment are the use of forgivable loans was a normal business practice for Highland and there was a clear expectation they would be forgiven over time, based on varying performance criteria, depending on the employee.

An important additional consideration is the Founders, Mr. Dondero and Mr. Okada, did not receive the typical amount of distribution payments from their equity ownership. Based on the financials filed in connection with the bankruptcy, there was a significant amount of capital

in the business amounting to \$399.6M. This amount includes undistributed earnings to the original equity shareholders, primarily Mr. Dondero.

#### **Market Assessment of Executive and Investor Compensation**

During my career as a compensation expert, I have had significant experience assessing and designing annual compensation awards across the financial services industry, including comparable asset management firms. Accordingly, I am familiar with typical annual compensation levels for senior executives and senior portfolio managers at comparable asset management firms. I would expect pay levels for a key individual such as Mr. Dondero to be substantial, given his contributions, responsibilities, and the competitive market for investment management pay.

To assess reasonable compensation across the competitive market range, it is important to determine Mr. Dondero's responsibilities and contributions relative to others in the industry. It is my understanding that Mr. Dondero worked tremendously long hours, was involved in all aspects of the business including investment decisions, fundraising, business management / administration and the operation of portfolio companies. An article published in the *Dallas Morning News* states, "Mr. Dondero works 70 hours weeks... his days are filled with board and investor meetings, company strategy sessions and constant monitoring and adjusting of the firm's portfolios." In my opinion, Mr. Dondero's role as CEO and head portfolio manager clearly exceeds the traditional duties of executive officers who are paid significant amounts elsewhere. Based on his significant responsibilities and key man status for the firm, it would be reasonable to expect annual compensation significantly above the market median.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> "High Intensity Pays Off For Highland," The Dallas Morning News, September 3, 2003, https://www.pressreader.com/usa/the-dallas-morning-news/20060903/283218733648003.

The appropriate positioning for Mr. Dondero is further accentuated by the assessment of "replacement cost". If Mr. Dondero departed Highland in the period of 2013 to 2019, the cost of replacing him as CEO / head investor with a similar level of contribution across all functions would be multiples of his annual compensation. In assessing and providing market compensation for Mr. Dondero's role, I considered how his skillsets and contributions are valued in the market. My assessment of market compensation considers the cost of replacing Mr. Dondero with an outside hire.

The final market range provided in Exhibit C reflects my industry experience and expertise as well as three methodologies for determining competitive compensation magnitudes. These methodologies include: (1) proxy analysis of CEOs at similarly sized, publicly traded asset management firms over the period, (2) market research on Portfolio Manager compensation, (3) top-down analysis of typical percent of revenue allocated to CEO and/or top Portfolio Managers. Several methodologies utilized to capture Mr. Dondero's specific role as CEO and head portfolio manager. The market figures do not include any premium for being a Founder. In the market, Founders can be, and generally are, paid substantially more.

As shown below and in Exhibit E, the average annual compensation of public company asset management CEOs from 2013 to 2019 ranges from \$2.1M - \$4.1M. Importantly, in the market it is common for some senior investment professionals to earn more than the CEO or other corporate officers. Incorporating firm leadership functions into the investment role is a savings of sorts, as someone must still do this job.

Proxy Analysis CEO Total Compensation (Asset Management)								
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Average
25th Percentile	\$1,515	\$1,680	\$2,405	\$1,845	\$2,370	\$2,310	\$2,220	\$2,049
Median	\$2,600	\$2,490	\$2,600	\$2,080	\$3,380	\$3,080	\$2,670	\$2,700
75th Percentile	\$3,210	\$2,805	\$3,130	\$3,815	\$3,945	\$3,285	\$3,435	\$3,375
90th Percentile	\$4,510	\$3,760	\$3,840	\$4,690	\$4,125	\$3,720	\$3,990	\$4,091

While we examined the disclosed compensation of a select group of public peers (Exhibit D), few of Highland's direct competitors are public and disclose the pay of their top investment professionals (see Exhibit F for some discussions about investment management compensation in the public domain). Instead, firms are either 1) private, or 2) if public, disclosed officers most often are not highly paid portfolio management professionals.

Specifics of individual portfolio management pay are closely guarded for competitive reasons. That said, there are some articles quoting portfolio manager pay in the public domain showing compensation for portfolio managers can be well above the competitive range for public asset management CEOs (see Exhibit F). For example, according to an article published by "efinancialcareers" top performing portfolio managers at the average Hedge Funds with greater than \$4.0B assets under management earned \$6.8M in total compensation.<sup>3</sup> While Highland's structure differs from a pure hedge fund, the skills and role responsibilities are comparable to Mr. Dondero. Another example is the CEO of the Harvard Endowment, Mr. Narvekar, earned \$6.25M in 2019.<sup>4</sup> The McLagan "Highland Capital CEO Compensation Analysis" (April 2020) produced by HCM, shows 2018 total compensation for the Head of Alternative Credit Strategy / CIO of \$4.1M at the 75th percentile and 2018 total compensation for CEO With/Without CIO Responsibilities making \$5.4M at the market median and \$9.6M at the market 75th percentile.

The final method for assessing compensation in the market is a top-down analysis of competitive percentages of revenue attributed to portfolio managers or their teams in the market. Based on competitive market research and industry knowledge, 10% to 12% of revenue would

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Dan Butcher, "Here Are the Salaries and Bonuses at Hedge Funds in the U.S.," eFinancialCareers, May 5, 2018, https://www.efinancialcareers.com/news/finance/the-salaries-and-bonuses-of-investment-professionals-at-large-hedge-fund-compensation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Janet Lorin, "Harvard Endowment Chief Narvekar \$6.25 Million for 2019," Bloomberg.com (Bloomberg, May 14, 2021), https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-05-14/harvard-paid-endowment-chief-narvekar-6-25-million-for-2019.

be within the competitive market range for someone in Mr. Dondero's role. One public example of a dual CEO and CIO sharing directly in profitability is Mario Gabelli; he earns a fixed 10% of aggregate pre-tax profit every year per his employment agreement.<sup>5</sup>

The final competitive range below (Exhibit C) reflects the market competitive annual total compensation range. This competitive range was determined based on my interactions with asset management firms and over 30 years of industry experience and the insights gained from the three methodologies for determining competitive market compensation outlined above.

Market compensation figures strictly represent Mr. Dondero's managerial responsibilities and does not include any premium as a Founder.

Figures in 000s	201:	et Range	
Market Match	Market Median	Market 75th Percentile	Market 90th Percentile / High-End
CEO / Portfolio Manager	\$3,000	\$4,250	\$6,000

Based on the market research and the insights gained through my extensive experience advising on compensation in the industry, reasonable annual compensation for Mr. Dondero's extensive role as CEO and portfolio manager is positioned at the market high-end at \$6.0M per year. This figure takes into account firm size, profitability, asset class, and both the investment functions, as well as responsibilities for running the firm. In summary, given his outsized role, his compensation should be positioned toward the market high-end. If the comparison was directly to hedge fund portfolio managers, the figures would be far higher (i.e., often \$10M+

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> "Schedule 14A GAMCO INVESTORS, INC.," SEC.gov, April 29, 2020, https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/0001060349/000106034920000009/gblproxyfinal2020.htm

annually). Additionally, market figures do not include any premium for being a Founder. In the market, Founders are often paid substantially more than the market figures shown.

Mr. Dondero's aggregate compensation during the period of 2013 to 2019 is well below the reasonable market compensation level. Mr. Dondero's aggregate actual compensation from 2013 - 2019 was \$21.0M (source: W-2 filings). Reasonable competitive compensation for Mr. Dondero based on our analysis of his role is \$6.0M per year or \$42.0M in aggregate over the period. The shortfall in actual compensation to Mr. Dondero versus reasonably expected competitive compensation levels over the period is about \$21.0M (Exhibit C). Market figures provided do not include any premium as a Founder, which further broadens the shortfall to market. An important additional consideration is the relative lack of typical equity distributions to Mr. Dondero for his historic ownership of the firm.

#### **Use of Loans as Compensation**

In my expert opinion, the use of loans from a company to its senior professionals continues to be a common practice for private businesses. At Highland, the use of loans was a common practice with the clear expectation among senior professionals that the loans would be forgiven over time based on performance, particularly of success in specified projects. I heard from former Highland or Highland affiliate employees that similar loans were used at Highland as deferred incentive compensation and intended to be forgiven over time or on the occurrence of particular achievements.

While, for public companies, Sarbanes Oxley Section 402 explicitly prohibits publicly traded companies from making loans to executive officers it is still a common practice at private

companies.<sup>6</sup> The use of these loans at private companies is beneficial for retention by allowing the firm to provide annual or periodic or other forgiveness for a portion the loan and eventually forgiving the full amount. The amount of loan forgiveness is considered income to the professionals and is taxable when forgiven. This was the case at Highland as well. In a publicly available article for the *Dow Jones Private Equity Analyst – Global Compensation Study*, two Proskauer partners outline the tax regulations for similar loans to professionals.<sup>7</sup>

#### **Market Practices on Equity Distributions**

It is the standard practice in the market to distribute the majority of earnings to equity owners each year for asset management businesses. Based on the financials filed in connection with the bankruptcy, there was a significant amount of capital in the business equaling \$399.6M. This amount included undistributed earnings to the primary equity holders, Mr. Dondero and Mr. Okada. Highland did not distribute these earnings based on their philosophy of "delayed gratification". This policy has been in place since the inception of the firm, including the peak years prior to the financial crisis. Very recently, the "delayed gratification" approach paid off in connection with Highland's private direct investment in MGM which was announced to be acquired by Amazon with significant economics attached.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Sarbanes-Oxley Act (2002).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Michael J Album and James E Gregory, "Human Capital Considerations For Maturing Private Equity Firms," Dow Jones Private Equity Analyst-Global Compensation Study, 2012, pp. 84-96, https://www.proskauer.com/insights/download-pdf/1930.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Annie Palmer, "Amazon to Buy MGM Studios for \$8.45 Billion," CNBC (CNBC, May 26, 2021), https://www.cnbc.com/2021/05/26/amazon-to-buy-mgm-studios-for-8point45-billion.html.

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**CONCLUSION** 

It is my opinion that Mr. Dondero's aggregate compensation from 2013 to 2019 is

significantly below the reasonable competitive compensation level for his role relative to similarly

situated firms. In aggregate, the total shortfall in Mr. Dondero's actual compensation versus

reasonable competitive compensation is at least \$21.0M. This shortfall does not include any

premium as a Founder, which could be considerable. Additionally, it is my opinion that the loans

provided to Mr. Dondero should be considered potential deferred compensation as they were

similar to loans given to other professionals at the firm. Lastly, the significant amount of capital

in the business at the time of bankruptcy is at least partially attributable to Mr. Dondero as un-

recognized payments as a prior equity holder, and indicates the rationale for having the potential

for considerable deferred compensation.

\* \* \*

I reserve the right to supplement this report and/or to supplement or modify my opinions

in light of any additional facts or data that may come to my attention.

Dated: May 28, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Johnson

Johnson Associates, Inc. 19 West 44<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 511

New York, NY 10036

Phone: (212) 221-740

#### **Exhibit A: Work History and Education**

#### Alan M. Johnson

Johnson Associates, Inc. 19 West 44<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 511 New York, NY 10036 (212) 221-7400

#### **Professional Experience**

• Entire career as executive compensation consultant

Years	<u>Firm</u>	Title or Equivalent	Duties					
1980 – 1983	Hewitt Associates	Consultant	Executive Compensation Consultant					
1983 – 1986	Sibson & Company	Principal	Executive Compensation Consultant					
1986 – 1989	Frederic W. Cook & Co.	Partner/Shareholder	Executive Compensation Consultant					
1989 – 1990	Handy Associates	Managing Director	Executive Compensation Consultant					
1990 – 1992	GKR	Managing Director	Executive Compensation Consultant					
1992 – Present	Johnson Associates, Inc.	Managing Director	Executive Compensation Consultant					
Education	_							
1973 – 1975	U.S. Naval Academy							
1975 – 1977	University of Florida, B.A. (History/Economics)							
1977 – 1978	University of Virginia, Graduate Economics							
1978 – 1980	University of Chicago, M.	B.A. (Finance)						

#### **Consulting focus:**

• Since about 1990 the bulk of my consulting efforts have involved advising major financial and professional service firms. I consult on the design and magnitudes of compensation programs for senior executives on a regular basis. I am quoted extensively in the press on compensation issues related to major financial service firms.

**Exhibit B: Alan M. Johnson Prior Expert Testimony for Previous Five Years** 

LAW FIRM:	CASE:	COURT:	
Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP	Mark Rohman and Sean Cunningham v. Capstone Advisory Group, LLC.	Arbitration	(April 2016)
Gibson Dunn & Crutcher LLP	United States v. Greebel	Eastern District of NY	(December 2017)
Cohen Tauber Spievack & Wagner P.C.	Jeffry Brown v. Neuberger Berman Group LLC, and NB Alternatives Advisers LLC	Arbitration	(January 2018)
Gibson Dunn & Crutcher LLP	Robert Emerson Mulholland v. UBS Financial Services Inc.	FINRA Dispute Resolution Arbitration	(December 2018)
Proskauer Rose LLP	Damian Dalla-Longa v. Magnetar Capital LLC	Arbitration	(September 2019)
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP	Isaly v. OrbiMed	Arbitration	(January 2020)
Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP	RTI Holding Company vs. Debtors	Delaware Bankruptcy Court	(December 2020)

#### **Exhibit C: Actual Compensation vs. Estimated Market Compensation Range**

#### Mr. Dondero Actual Compensation (2013 - 2019)

Notes: Mr. Dondero's compensation reflects amounts disclosed in W-2 filings for 2013 to 2019

• Does not include equity distributions over the period; typically, not included in competitive assessments of compensation.

James Dondero Compensation									
Income	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total	Average
Highland Capital Management W-2 Income	\$1,911,538	\$3,282,693	\$2,875,058	\$772,904	\$566,370	\$566,370	\$568,542	\$10,543,475	\$1,506,211
Nexpoint Residential Trust W-2 Income						\$893,262		\$893,262	
NextPoint Advisors W-2 Income				\$1,628,736	\$3,118,250	\$2,870,278	\$1,953,455	\$9,570,718	\$2,392,679
Total W-2 Income (Source: W-2)	\$1,911,538	\$3,282,693	\$2,875,058	\$2,401,639	\$3,684,620	\$4,329,910	\$2,521,996	\$21,007,455	\$3,001,065

#### **Estimated Market Compensation Range**

**Notes:** Market annual total compensation range reflecting my direct interactions with asset management firms and over 30 years of industry experience

- We have factored in Mr. Dondero's out-sized role / contributions on both the investment management and firm-stewardship responsibilities where applicable.
- Greater than findings from public proxy analysis reflecting higher compensation to portfolio managers in the market / alternatives space.
- Represents finding from the 3 methodologies outlined for determining market compensation.
- Market compensation figures strictly represent Mr. Dondero's managerial responsibilities and does not include any premium as a Founder

Figures in 000s	2013 - 2019 Total Annual Market Range							
Market Match	Market Median	Market 75th Percentile	Market 90th Percentile / High-End					
CEO / Portfolio Manager	\$3,000	\$4,250	\$6,000					

#### **Compensation Shortfall**

**Notes:** In my opinion, reasonable competitive annual compensation for Mr. Dondero over the period is \$6.0M, positioning him toward the market high-end to reflect his out-sized role and contribution to the firm

Aggregate Reasonable Competitive Compensation  Less: Actual Total Compensation	\$42,000,000 \$21,007,455
Shortfall in Compensation	\$20,992,545

#### **Exhibit D: Select Public Peer Comparators**

#### **Notes:**

- Industry consolidation continues to shrink pool of publicly available compensation data for the asset management industry, even at much larger firms than Highland
- Group intended to represent a range of firms that are relevant but not perfectly similar
- Disclosure of Portfolio Manager positions limited as typically not included in publicly filed data (no compulsion to disclose as with executive officers)
- Highland data includes good faith estimate of consolidated entities assets under management during the period. Actual financials not assessed due to the non-disclosure of Highland Capital Management ("HCM") information. Data for "HCMFA" and "NPA" reviewed.

		As	sets Und	er Manaç	gement (\$	В)				Re	evenue (\$	M)		
Peers	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Asset Management														
Cohen & Steers	\$72	\$55	\$62	\$60	\$53	\$53		\$411	\$381	\$378	\$350	\$329	\$314	\$298
Pzena Investment	\$41	\$33	\$39	\$30	\$26	\$28	\$25	\$151	\$154	\$141	\$108	\$117	\$113	\$96
Silvercrest	\$25	\$19	\$21	\$19	\$18	\$18	\$16	\$102	\$99	\$91	\$80	\$75	\$69	\$60
Diamond Hill	\$23	\$19	\$22	\$19	\$17	\$16	\$12	\$137	\$146	\$145	\$136	\$124	\$105	\$81
Manning & Napier	\$19	\$20	\$25	\$32	\$35	\$48	\$51	\$136	\$161	\$202	\$249	\$328	\$405	\$376
Westwood Holdings	\$15	\$17	\$24	\$21	\$21	\$20	\$19	\$84	\$122	\$134	\$123	\$131	\$113	\$92
Hennessy Advisors	\$5	\$6	\$7	\$7	\$6	\$6	\$4	\$43	\$55	\$53	\$51	\$45	\$35	\$24
Main Street Capital	\$4	\$3	\$3					\$173	\$214	\$235				
Consolidated Highland*		\$10.0	\$14.0	\$15.0	\$18.0	\$20.0	\$19.0							
Highland Hedge Fund*		\$1.9	\$1.0	\$0.9	\$1.3	\$1.0	\$0.7		-	-			-	
HCMFA & NP (only)	\$7.5	\$6.1	\$5.1	\$4.8	\$5.2	\$5.7	\$4.7	\$66	\$52	\$42	\$41	\$50	\$31	\$31

<sup>\*</sup>Represents estimated for the consolidated three entities. Financial for Highland Capital Management ("HCM") not provided by the debtor

#### Exhibit E: Proxy Analysis Disclosed Public Peer CEO Compensation (2013 - 2019)

#### **Notes:**

- Reflects disclosed senior executive officer compensation in \$ thousands
- CEO not necessarily the highest paid employee at any given firm
- Senior investment professionals' pay often not disclosed and can be greater than CEO
- GAMCO not included; Mr. Gabelli receives 10% of aggregate pre-tax profit annually
- Indicates awards granted for performance each, not outstanding or fully vested compensation
- Where applicable, partial year salaries annualized. One-time awards annualized over appropriate vesting periods. Performance share values reflects target award values; does not reflect payouts from past cycles

#### **Summary of Proxy Analysis**

	Proxy Analysis CEO Total Compensation (Asset Management)										
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Average			
25th Percentile	\$1,515	\$1,680	\$2,405	\$1,845	\$2,370	\$2,310	\$2,220	\$2,049			
Median	\$2,600	\$2,490	\$2,600	\$2,080	\$3,380	\$3,080	\$2,670	\$2,700			
75th Percentile	\$3,210	\$2,805	\$3,130	\$3,815	\$3,945	\$3,285	\$3,435	\$3,375			
90th Percentile	\$4,510	\$3,760	\$3,840	\$4,690	\$4,125	\$3,720	\$3,990	\$4,091			

#### **Proxy Analysis by Year and Individual**

Chief Executive Officer - 2019											
Company	Executive	Position	Base Salary	Cash Bonus	Total Cash	Stock Options	Restricted Shares	Perf Shares	Total Long Term	One-Time (Annualized)	Total Comp
Cohen & Steers	Steers, R.	CEO	\$750	\$835	\$1,585	\$0	\$2,915	\$0	\$2,915	\$0	\$4,500
Manning & Napier	Mayer, M.	CEO	\$500	\$2,250	\$2,750	\$145	\$755	\$0	\$900	\$0	\$3,650
Silvercrest	Hough, R.	Pres & CEO	\$700	\$1,000	\$1,700	\$800	\$475	\$0	\$1,275	\$240	\$3,215
Main Street Capital	Hyzak, D.	CEO	\$625	\$650	\$1,275	\$0	\$1,395	\$0	\$1,395	\$0	\$2,670
Pzena Investment	Pzena, R.	Chairman, CEO, & Co-CIO	\$365	\$685	\$1,055	\$0	\$1,425	\$0	\$1,425	\$0	\$2,480
Hennessy Advisors	Hennessy, N.	Chairman & CEO	\$350	\$1,455	\$1,805	\$0	\$155	\$0	\$155	\$0	\$1,960
Westwood Holdings	Casey, B.	President & CEO	\$650	\$0	\$650	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$650
25th Percentile			\$435	\$670	\$1,165	\$0	\$315	\$0	\$530	\$0	\$2,22
50th Percentile			\$625	\$835	\$1,585	\$0	\$755	\$0	\$1,275	\$0	\$2,67
5th Percentile			\$675	\$1,230	\$1,755	\$75	\$1,410	\$0	\$1,410	\$0	\$3,43
90th Percentile			\$720	\$1,775	\$2,185	\$405	\$2,020	\$0	\$2,020	\$95	\$3,99

Exhibit E: Proxy Analysis Disclosed Public Peer CEO Compensation (2013 - 2019)

			Chief Ex	ecutive O	fficer - 20	18					
Company	Executive	Position	Base Salary	Cash Bonus	Total Cash	Stock Options	Restricted Shares	Perf Shares	Total Long Term	One-Time (Annualized)	Total Comp
Cohen & Steers	Steers, R.	CEO	\$750	\$650	\$1,400	\$0	\$2,355	\$0	\$2,355	\$0	\$3,75
Westwood Holdings	Casey, B.	President & CEO	\$650	\$1,065	\$1,715	\$0	\$0	\$1,995	\$1,995	\$0	\$3,71
zena Investment	Pzena, R.	Chairman, CEO, & CIO	\$365	\$995	\$1,360	\$0	\$1,925	\$0	\$1,925	\$0	\$3,28
Main Street Capital	Hyzak, D.	CEO	\$555	\$1,400	\$1,955	\$0	\$1,275	\$0	\$1,275	\$0	\$3,23
Silvercrest	Hough, R.	CEO	\$700	\$1,600	\$2,300	\$500	\$40	\$0	\$540	\$240	\$3,08
Hennessy Advisors	Hennessy, N.	CEO	\$350	\$2,420	\$2,770	\$0	\$220	\$0	\$220	\$0	\$2,99
Diamond Hill	Bingaman, C.	President & CEO	\$300	\$500	\$800	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$510	\$2,31
Manning & Napier	Coons, J.	Co-CEO & President	\$400	\$520	\$920	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$920
Manning & Napier	Goldberg, R.	Co-CEO & Director	\$750	\$0	\$750	\$0	\$155	\$0	\$155	\$0	\$905
Sth Percentile			\$365	\$520	\$920	\$0	\$40	\$0	\$220	\$0	\$2,31
50th Percentile			\$555	\$995	\$1,400	\$0	\$220	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$3,08
75th Percentile			\$700	\$1,400	\$1,955	\$0	\$1,275	\$0	\$1,925	\$0	\$3,28
90th Percentile			\$750	\$1,765	\$2,395	\$100	\$2,010	\$400	\$2,065	\$295	\$3,72
			Chief Ev	ecutive O	fficor - 20	17					
			Base	Cash	Total	Stock	Restricted	Perf	Total	One-Time	Total
Company	Executive	Position	Salary	Bonus	Cash	Options	Shares	Shares	Long Term	(Annualized)	Com
Westwood Holdings	Casey, B.	CEO	\$650	\$1,540	\$2,190	\$0	\$0	\$1,995	\$1,995	\$0	\$4,18
Cohen & Steers	Steers, R.	CEO	\$750	\$735	\$1,485	\$0	\$2,615	\$0	\$2,615	\$0	\$4,10
Main Street Capital	Foster, V.	Chairman, CEO	\$610	\$1,500	\$2,110	\$0	\$1,780	\$0	\$1,780	\$0	\$3,89
Hennessy Advisors	Hennessy, N.	President & CEO	\$350	\$3,240	\$3,590	\$0	\$245	\$0	\$245	\$0	\$3,83
zena Investment	Pzena, R.	CEO, Co-CIO	\$365	\$2,560	\$2,925	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,92
Silvercrest	Hough, R.	CEO	\$700	\$1,500	\$2,200	\$0	\$40	\$0	\$40	\$240	\$2,48
Diamond Hill	Bingaman, C.	President & CEO	\$300	\$550	\$850	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,180	\$2,03
Manning & Napier	Stamey, C.	Co-CEO, Sales / Distribution	\$300	\$1,140	\$1,440	\$0	\$135	\$0	\$135	\$0	\$1,57
5th Percentile			\$340	\$1,040	\$1,475	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$30	\$0	\$2,37
50th Percentile			\$490	\$1,500	\$2,150	\$0	\$90	\$0	\$190	\$0	\$3,38
75th Percentile			\$665	\$1,795	\$2,380	\$0	\$630	\$0	\$1,835	\$60	\$3,94
90th Percentile			\$715	\$2,765	\$3,125	\$0	\$2,030	\$600	\$2,180	\$520	\$4,12
			Chief Ex	ecutive O	fficer - 20	16					
Company	Executive	Position	Base Salary	Cash Bonus	Total Cash	Stock Options	Restricted Shares	Perf Shares	Total Long Term	One-Time (Annualized)	Total Comp
Vestwood Holdings	Casey, B.	CEO	\$650	\$1,350	\$2,000	\$0	\$0	\$3,955	\$3,955	\$0	\$5,95
Cohen & Steers	Steers, R.	CEO	\$750	\$675	\$1,425	\$0	\$2,425	\$0	\$2,425	\$0	\$3,85
Hennessy Advisors	Hennessy, N.	President & CEO	\$350	\$3,075	\$3,425	\$0	\$350	\$0	\$350	\$0	\$3,77
Diamond Hill	Bingaman, C.	President & CEO	\$300	\$600	\$900	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,180	\$2,08
zena Investment	Pzena, R.	CEO, Co-CIO	\$365	\$1,600	\$1,965	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,96
Silvercrest	Hough, R.	CEO	\$700	\$725	\$1,425	\$0	\$55	\$0	\$55	\$240	\$1,72
Manning & Napier	Manning, W.	CEO	\$1,400	\$0	\$1,400	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,40
5th Percentile			\$360	\$640	\$1,415	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,84
0th Percentile			\$650	\$725	\$1,425	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$55	\$0	\$2,08
			\$725	\$1,475	\$1,985	\$0	\$205	\$0	\$1,390	\$120	\$3,81
75th Percentile									Ų.,jou	V. <u>=</u> -	

Exhibit E: Proxy Analysis Disclosed Public Peer CEO Compensation (2013 - 2019)

			Chief E	Executive O	fficer - 20	15					
Company	Executive	Position	Base Salary	Cash Bonus	Total Cash	Stock Options	Restricted Shares	Perf Shares	Total Long Term	One-Time (Annualized)	Total Comp
Vestwood Holdings	Casey, B.	President, CEO	\$600	\$2,065	\$2,665	\$0	\$0	\$2,090	\$2,090	\$0	\$4,75
lennessy Advisors	Hennessy, N.	President & CEO	\$350	\$2,515	\$2,865	\$0	\$370	\$0	\$370	\$0	\$3,23
Cohen & Steers	Steers, R.	CEO	\$750	\$485	\$1,235	\$0	\$1,790	\$0	\$1,790	\$0	\$3,02
Diamond Hill	Dillon, R.	CEO	\$360	\$640	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,600	\$1,600	\$0	\$2,60
Manning & Napier	Cunningham, P.	CEO	\$500	\$0	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,50
Pzena Investment	Pzena, R.	CEO, Co-CIO	\$380	\$605	\$980	\$0	\$0	\$1,330	\$1,330	\$0	\$2,31
Silvercrest	Hough, R.	CEO	\$700	\$725	\$1,425	\$0	\$240	\$0	\$240	\$0	\$1,66
5th Percentile			\$370	\$545	\$990	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$850	\$0	\$2,40
0th Percentile			\$500	\$640	\$1,235	\$0	\$0	\$1,330	\$1,600	\$0	\$2,60
5th Percentile			\$650	\$1,395	\$2,045	\$0	\$305	\$1,800	\$1,895	\$0	\$3,13
0th Percentile			\$720	\$2,245	\$2,745	\$0	\$940	\$2,035	\$2,035	\$0	\$3,84
			Chief E	Executive O	fficer - 20	14					
ompany	Executive	Position	Base Salary	Cash Bonus	Total Cash	Stock Options	Restricted Shares	Perf Shares	Total Long Term	One-Time (Annualized)	Total Comp
Vestwood Holdings	Casey, B.	President, CEO	\$600	\$1,995	\$2,595	\$0	\$0	\$2,060	\$2,060	\$0	\$4,65
ohen & Steers	Steers, R.	CEO	\$750	\$460	\$1,210	\$0	\$1,660	\$0	\$1,660	\$0	\$2,87
iamond Hill	Dillon, R.	CEO	\$360	\$640	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,600	\$1,600	\$0	\$2,60
lennessy Advisors	Hennessy, N.	President & CEO	\$350	\$1,750	\$2,100	\$0	\$280	\$0	\$280	\$0	\$2,38
Silvercrest	Hough, R.	CEO	\$650	\$725	\$1,375	\$0	\$70	\$0	\$70	\$0	\$1,44
Manning & Napier	Cunningham, P.	CEO	\$500	\$495	\$995	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$995
5th Percentile			\$395	\$530	\$1,055	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$125	\$0	\$1,68
0th Percentile			\$550	\$685	\$1,295	\$0	\$35	\$0	\$940	\$0	\$2,49
5th Percentile			\$640	\$1,495	\$1,920	\$0	\$230	\$1,200	\$1,645	\$0	\$2,80
0th Percentile			\$700	\$1,875	\$2,350	\$0	\$970	\$1,830	\$1,860	\$0	\$3,76
			Chief E	Executive O	fficer - 20	13					
Company	Executive	Position	Base Salary	Cash Bonus	Total Cash	Stock Options	Restricted Shares	Perf Shares	Total Long Term	One-Time (Annualized)	Total Comp
lanning & Napier	Cunningham, P.	CEO	\$500	\$1,500	\$2,000	\$0	\$4,020	\$0	\$4,020	\$0	\$6,02
/estwood Holdings	Casey, B.	President, CEO	\$600	\$1,505	\$2,105	\$0	\$0	\$1,395	\$1,395	\$0	\$3,50
ohen & Steers	Steers, R.	CEO	\$750	\$365	\$1,115	\$0	\$1,800	\$0	\$1,800	\$0	\$2,91
iamond Hill	Dillon, R.	CEO	\$360	\$640	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,600	\$1,600	\$0	\$2,60
lennessy Advisors	Hennessy, N.	President & CEO	\$350	\$1,170	\$1,520	\$0	\$90	\$0	\$90	\$0	\$1,61
zena Investment	Pzena, R.	CEO, Co-CIO	\$280	\$1,145	\$1,420	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,42
ilvercrest	Hough, R.	CEO	\$500	\$600	\$1,100	\$0	\$70	\$0	\$70	\$0	\$1,17
5th Percentile			\$355	\$620	\$1,110	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$80	\$0	\$1,51
0th Percentile			\$500	\$1,145	\$1,420	\$0	\$70	\$0	\$1,395	\$0	\$2,60
5th Percentile			\$550	\$1,335	\$1,760	\$0	\$945	\$700	\$1,700	\$0	\$3,21
0th Percentile			\$660	\$1,500	\$2,040	\$0	\$2,690	\$1,475	\$2,690	\$0	\$4,51

#### **Exhibit F: Discussions of Investment Management Compensation in the Public Domain**

Butcher, Dan. "Here Are the Salaries and Bonuses at Hedge Funds in the U.S." eFinancialCareers, May 5, 2018. <a href="https://www.efinancialcareers.com/news/finance/the-salaries-and-bonuses-of-investment-professionals-at-large-hedge-fund-compensation">https://www.efinancialcareers.com/news/finance/the-salaries-and-bonuses-of-investment-professionals-at-large-hedge-fund-compensation.</a>

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#### **Documents Reviewed**

#### **Data Items Reviewed from Debtor**

Bates Label Range: D-JDNL-017439 to D-JDNL-017441

#### **Data Items Reviewed:**

Bates Label Range: EXPERT 0000001 to EXPERT 0002316

#### **Individual Documents - Starting Bates Label**

- Expert 1 EXPERT 0000001
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0000003
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0000004
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0000024
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0000026
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0000028
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0000030
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0000365
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0000367
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0000372
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0000383
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0000384
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- Expert 1 EXPERT 0000387
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- Expert 1 EXPERT 0000679
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0000703
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0000928
- Expert 1 EM EN 1 0000/20
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0000929
   Expert 1 EXPERT 0000931
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0000933
- Expert 1 Ext Ext 0000755
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0000935
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0000937
   Expert 1 EXPERT 0000940
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0000942
- Expert 1 EXPERT 0000944
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- Expert 1 EXPERT 0001998
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# Exhibit H

#### PACHULSKI STANG ZIEHL & JONES LLP

Jeffrey N. Pomerantz (CA Bar No. 143717) (admitted pro hac vice) Ira D. Kharasch (CA Bar No. 109084) (admitted pro hac vice) John A. Morris (NY Bar No. 266326) (admitted pro hac vice) Gregory V. Demo (NY Bar No. 5371992) (admitted pro hac vice) Hayley R. Winograd (NY Bar No. 5612569) (admitted pro hac vice) 10100 Santa Monica Blvd., 13th Floor Los Angeles, CA 90067

Telephone: (310) 277-6910 Facsimile: (310) 201-0760

#### HAYWARD PLLC

Melissa S. Hayward (Texas Bar No. 24044908) Zachery Z. Annable (Texas Bar No. 24053075) 10501 N. Central Expy, Ste. 106

Dallas, Texas 75231 Tel: (972) 755-7100 Fax: (972) 755-7110

Counsel for the Debtor and Debtor-in-Possession

## IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS DALLAS DIVISION

In re:	§	Case No. 19-34054
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.	§ §	Chapter 11
Inone in the winter object, e.i.	§	Chapter 11
Debtor.	\$ §	
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§	
	§	
Plaintiff.	§	
v.	§	Adversary No. 21-03003-sgj
	§	
JAMES D. DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND	§	
THE DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST,	§	
	§	
Defendants.	§	
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§	
	§	
Plaintiff.	§	
	§	
v.	§	
	§	Adversary No.: 21-03005-sgj
NEXPOINT ADVISORS, L.P., JAMES	§	
DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND THE	§	
DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST,	§	
	§	
Defendants.	§	

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HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§	
Plaintiff.	§ § 8	
v.	§ § §	Adversary No.: 21-03006-sgj
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT	§	114 (elsai) 116 21 00000 sgj
SERVICES, INC., JAMES DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO, AND THE DUGABOY	§ §	
INVESTMENT TRUST,	§ 8	
Defendants.	§	
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§	
Plaintiff.	§ §	
V.	§ §	
	§	Adversary No.: 21-03007-sgj
HCRE PARTNERS, LLC (n/k/a NEXPOINT REAL ESTATE PARTNERS, LLC), JAMES	§ §	
DONDERO, NANCY DONDERO AND THE	§	
DUGABOY INVESTMENT TRUST,	§ 8	
Defendants.	§	

### HIGHLAND'S RESPONSES AND OBJECTIONS TO DEFENDANTS' JOINT DISCOVERY REQUESTS

Highland Capital Management, L.P., the reorganized debtor<sup>1</sup> ("<u>Highland</u>" or, as may be temporally required, the "<u>Debtor</u>") in the above-captioned chapter 11 case (the "<u>Bankruptcy Case</u>") and plaintiff in the above-captioned adversary proceedings (the "<u>Adversary Proceedings</u>"), hereby responds to *Defendants' Joint Discovery Requests To Highland Capital Management, L.P.* (the "<u>Requests</u>")<sup>2</sup> served by defendants James Dondero ("<u>Mr. Dondero</u>"), Nancy Dondero, ("<u>Ms.</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> On February 22, 2021, the Bankruptcy Court entered the *Order (i) Confirming the Fifth Amended Plan of Reorganization (as Modified) and (ii) Granting Related Relief* [Docket No. 1943] (the "Confirmation Order") which confirmed the *Fifth Amended Plan of Reorganization of Highland Capital* Management, *L.P.*, as modified (the "Plan"). The Plan went Effective (as defined in the Plan) on August 11, 2021, and Highland is the Reorganized Debtor (as defined in the Plan) since the Effective Date. *See Notice of Occurrence of Effective Date of Confirmed Fifth Amended Plan of Reorganization of Highland Capital Management, <i>L.P.* [Docket No. 2700].

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Capitalized terms not defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Requests.

<u>Dondero</u>"), The Dugaboy Investment Trust ("<u>Dugaboy</u>"), NexPoint Advisors, L.P. ("<u>NexPoint</u>"), Highland Capital Management Services, Inc. ("<u>HCMS</u>"), and NexPoint Real Estate Partners, LLC ("<u>NREP</u>") (collectively, "<u>Defendants</u>"). Highland's responses and objections to the Requests (the "<u>Responses</u>") are made pursuant to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure ("<u>FRCP</u>") 26, 33, and 34 as made applicable in bankruptcy cases pursuant to Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure 7026, 7033, and 7034.

#### **GENERAL OBJECTIONS**

Unless otherwise specified, the following general objections and caveats are applicable to each and every Response and are incorporated into each Response as though set forth in full:

- 1. The Responses contained herein are based upon information presently known and ascertained by the Highland and Highland reserves the right to amend, supplement, or modify these Responses during depositions or otherwise.
- 2. Highland objects to the Requests to the extent they seek information or documents that are protected from discovery by the attorney-client privilege, the attorney work product doctrine or any other privilege or immunity. The inadvertent disclosure or production of any document that is protected from discovery by any privilege or immunity shall not constitute a waiver of any such privilege or immunity. All references in these objections and responses to Highland's agreement to produce documents shall be construed to mean non-privileged documents.
- 3. Highland objects to the Requests to the extent they request information that is not reasonably or readily available to it, in its possession, custody or control, or is more readily available to the Defendants from another source or for which the burden of obtaining such information is not substantially greater for the Defendants than it is for Highland.

- 4. Highland objects to the Requests to the extent they call for legal conclusions and/or analyses.
- 5. All specific responses to the Requests are provided without waiver of, and with express reservation of (a) all objections as to competency, relevancy, materiality, and admissibility of the responses and the subject matter thereof as evidence for any purpose in any further proceedings in this matter; (b) all privileges, including the attorney-client privilege and work product doctrine; (c) the right to object to the use of such responses, or the subject matter thereof, on any ground in any further proceeding in this action; and (d) the right to object on any ground at any time to a demand or request for further responses to these or any other discovery requests or other discovery proceedings.
- 6. Highland objects to the Requests to the extent they seek to expand on or conflict with Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure and/or the Local Rules of the Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Texas.
- 7. Highland's agreement to produce documents with respect to a specific Request shall not be construed as a representation that such documents actually exist or are within Plaintiff's possession, custody or control.
- 8. Notwithstanding Highland's production of certain documents that were lodged on the main docket or in one or more of the Adversary Proceedings, Highland has not reviewed all documents lodged therein and reserves the right to use, reply upon, or offer into evidence any such documents.
- 9. Unless indicated otherwise, Highland's search for responsive documents and communications covers the period December 1, 2018 to the present.

10. These General Objections and Responses shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference into the Specific Responses and Objections set forth below.

# SPECIFIC OBJECTIONS AND RESPONSES TO DOCUMENT REQUESTS REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 1:

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to the allegation in the Amended Complaints that "Debtor believes that the Alleged Agreement is a fiction created after the commencement of this Adversary Proceeding for the purpose of avoiding or at least delaying paying the obligations due under the notes."

#### **RESPONSE:**

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 1, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 2**:

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to your Avoidance and Recovery of Actual Fraudulent Transfer claims (Counts 3 and 4 of the Amended Complaint) made against James Dondero.

#### **RESPONSE**:

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 2, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 3**:

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to your Declaratory Relief claims (Count 5 of the Amended Complaint) made against Dugaboy and Nancy Dondero.

#### **RESPONSE**:

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 3, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 4:**

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to your Breach of Fiduciary Duty claims (Count 6 of the Amended Complaint) made against Dugaboy and Nancy Dondero.

#### **RESPONSE:**

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 4, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 5**:

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to your Aiding and Abetting a Breach of Fiduciary Duty claims (Count 7 of the Amended Complaint) against James Dondero and Nancy Dondero.

#### **RESPONSE**:

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 5, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 6:**

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to your Avoidance and Recovery of Actual Fraudulent Transfer claims (Counts 3 and 4 of the Amended Complaint) made against NPA.

#### **RESPONSE:**

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 6, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 7**:

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to your Avoidance and Recovery of Actual Fraudulent Transfer claims (Counts 3 and 4 of the Amended Complaint) made against HCMS.

#### **RESPONSE:**

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 7, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 8:**

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to your Avoidance and Recovery of Actual Fraudulent Transfer claims (Counts 3 and 4 of the Amended Complaint) made against HCRE.

#### **RESPONSE:**

Subject to the General Objections and this specific objection, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 8, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information. Highland reserves its right to supplement its Response to this Request in light of ongoing discovery.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 9:**

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to your Avoidance and Recovery of Actual Fraudulent Transfer claims (Counts 3 and 4 of the Amended Complaint) made against James Dondero.

#### **RESPONSE:**

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 9, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 10:**

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to any damages that you are seeking pursuant to your Amended Complaints.

#### **RESPONSE:**

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 10, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 11:**

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to the allegation in the Amended Complaints that, "At all relevant times, Mr. Dondero controlled the Debtor."

#### **RESPONSE:**

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 11, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 12**:

Produce all documents and communications related to the Alleged Agreement referenced in the Amended Complaints.

#### **RESPONSE**:

In response to Request for Production No. 12, Highland states that it is not aware of any documents responsive to this Request.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 13:**

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to the allegation in the Amended Complaints that "the Debtor's books and records do not reflect the Alleged Agreement."

#### **RESPONSE**:

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 13, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 14:**

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to the allegation in the Amended Complaints that "Dugaboy was not authorized to enter into the Alleged Agreement on behalf of the Partnership or otherwise bind the Partnership (as "Partnership" is defined in the Limited Partnership Agreement.)"

#### **RESPONSE:**

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 14, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 15:**

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to the allegation in the Amended Complaints that "Mr. Dondero did not inform the Debtor's CFO or outside auditor's about the Alleged Agreement."

#### **RESPONSE:**

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 15, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 16:**

Produce all communications between the Debtor and Debtor's outside auditor.

#### **RESPONSE**:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 16 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, and not proportional to the needs of the case. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1). Subject to the General Objections and these specific objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 16, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information concerning or relating to the Notes.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 17:**

Produce all communications between the Debtor and Debtor's outside auditor related to any allegations in the Amended Complaints.

#### **RESPONSE**:

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 17, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 18:**

Produce all communications between Mr. Dondero and Debtor's CFO (as that term is used in the Amended Complaints) related to the Notes.

#### **RESPONSE**:

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 18, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 19:**

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to the allegation in the Amended Complaints that "Nancy Dondero also lacked the authority to enter into the Alleged Agreement or to otherwise bind the Debtor."

#### **RESPONSE:**

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 19, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 20:**

Produce all communications between Nancy Dondero and James Dondero.

#### **RESPONSE:**

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 20 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, and not proportional to the needs of the case to the extent it asks for "all" communications between Nancy Dondero and James Dondero. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1). Subject to the General Objections and these specific objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 20, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information concerning or relating to the allegations in the Amended Complaint or the Notes or the Amended Answer.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 21:**

Produce all communications between Nancy Dondero and James Dondero related to the allegations in the Amended Complaints.

#### **RESPONSE**:

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 21, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 22:**

Produce all communications between Nancy Dondero and James Dondero related to James Dondero's compensation from the Debtor.

#### **RESPONSE**:

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 22, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 23:**

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to the allegations in the Amended Complaints that each of the Defendants entered into the "Alleged Agreement with actual intent to hinder, delay, or defraud a present or future creditor."

#### **RESPONSE**:

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 23, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 24**:

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to the allegation in the Amended Complaints that the "Alleged Agreement was not subject to negotiation."

#### **RESPONSE:**

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 24, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 25:**

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to the allegation in the Amended Complaints that "the value of the consideration received by the Debtor for the transfers was not reasonably equivalent value."

#### **RESPONSE**:

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 25, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 26:**

Produce all documents and communications evidencing the value of the Notes.

#### **RESPONSE:**

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 26.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 27:**

Produce all documents and communications evidencing the value of the consideration received by the Debtor related to the Notes.

#### **RESPONSE:**

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 27, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 28:**

Produce all documents and communications supporting or related to the allegation in the Amended Complaints that James Dondero and Nancy Dondero "were aware that Dugaboy would have fiduciary duties to the Debtor if it acted to bind the Debtor."

#### **RESPONSE:**

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 28, including using search terms and identifying custodians that the Debtor believes are most likely to yield responsive information.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 29**:

Produce all documents and communications supporting any damages you are seeking related to the Amended Complaints.

#### **RESPONSE**:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 29 on the ground that it is duplicative of Request for Production No. 10. Subject to the General Objections and this specific objection, Highland incorporates by reference its Response to Request for Production No. 10.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 30:**

Produce all documents and communications relating to the solvency and financial condition of the Debtor.

#### **RESPONSE**:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 30 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, and not proportional to the needs of the case. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1). Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 30.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 31:**

Produce all monthly balance sheets of the Debtor for the period from January 1, 2013 to the present.

#### **RESPONSE**:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 31 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, and not proportional to the needs of the case. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1). Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 31.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 32:**

Produce all of the Debtor's internal monthly reporting packages for the period from January 1, 2013 to the present.

#### **RESPONSE:**

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 32 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, and not proportional to the needs of the case. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1). Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 32.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 33:**

Produce all of the Debtor's financial statements for the period from January 1, 2013 to the present.

#### **RESPONSE:**

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 33 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, and not proportional to the needs of the case. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1). Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 33.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 34:**

Produce all "loan summaries" of the Debtor for the period from January 1, 2013 to the present.

#### **RESPONSE**:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 34 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, and not proportional to the needs of the case. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1). Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 34.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 35:**

Produce all of the Debtor's audited financial statements for the period from January 1, 2013 to the present.

#### **RESPONSE:**

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 35 on the ground that Highland has previously produced documents responsive to this Request and does not intend to produce all such documents again.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 36:**

Produce all valuation reports, including all annual and/or periodic valuation reports, and all other documents reflecting the enterprise value and/or asset value of the following entities:

Trussway Holdings, LLC, Trussway Industries, LLC, MGM Holdings, and Cornerstone Healthcare for the period from January 1, 2013 to the present.

#### **RESPONSE:**

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 36 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, and not proportional to the needs of the case. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1). Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 36.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 37:**

Produce all valuation reports, including all annual and/or periodic valuation reports, and all other documents reflecting the enterprise value and/or asset value of all entities and assets owned, directly or indirectly, by the following entities and in which the Debtor has an interest: Highland Select Equity Fund, L.P., Highland Restoration Capital Partners, L.P., Highland CLO Funding, Ltd., Highland Multi Strategy Credit Fund, L.P., Highland Capital Management Korea Limited, and Cornerstone Healthcare.

#### **RESPONSE**:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 37 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims or defense. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1).

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 38:**

Produce all documents showing the financial performance of the following entities for the period from January 1, 2013 to the present: (i) the Debtor; (ii) all of the Debtor's Managed Funds; (iii) all of the Debtor's subsidiaries, both direct and indirect majority-owned; (iv) all Affiliates of the Debtor; and (v) any other entity owned, controlled, and/or managed by the Debtor.

#### **RESPONSE**:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 38 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims or defense. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1).

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 39:**

Produce all financial statements for the following entities for the period from January 1, 2013 to the present: (i) the Debtor; (ii) all of the Debtor's Managed Funds; (iii) all of the Debtor's subsidiaries, both direct and indirect majority-owned; (iv) all Affiliates of the Debtor; and (v) any other entity owned, controlled, and/or managed by the Debtor.

#### **RESPONSE:**

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 39 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims or defense. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1).

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 40**:

Produce all monthly balance sheets for the following entities for the period from January 1, 2013 to the present: (i) the Debtor; (ii) all of the Debtor's Managed Funds; (iii) all of the Debtor's subsidiaries, both direct and indirect majority-owned; (iv) all Affiliates of the Debtor; and (v) any other entity owned, controlled, and/or managed by the Debtor.

#### **RESPONSE:**

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 40 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims or defense. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1).

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 41:**

Produce all internal monthly reporting packages for the following entities for the period from January 1, 2013 to the present: (i) the Debtor; (ii) all of the Debtor's Managed Funds; (iii) all of the Debtor's subsidiaries, both direct and indirect majority-owned; (iv) all Affiliates of the Debtor; and (v) any other entity owned, controlled, and/or managed by the Debtor.

#### **RESPONSE:**

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 41 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims or defense. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1).

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 42:**

Produce all documents reflecting the assets under management for the following entities for the period from January 1, 2013 to the present: (i) the Debtor; (ii) all of the Debtor's Managed Funds; (iii) all of the Debtor's subsidiaries, both direct and indirect majority-owned; (iv) all Affiliates of the Debtor; and (v) any other entity owned, controlled, and/or managed by the Debtor.

#### **RESPONSE:**

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 42 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims or defense. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1).

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 43:**

Produce all documents reflecting the investment results and/or performance for the following entities for the period from January 1, 2013 to the present: (i) the Debtor; (ii) all of the Debtor's Managed Funds; (iii) all of the Debtor's subsidiaries, both direct and indirect majority-owned; (iv) all Affiliates of the Debtor; and (v) any other entity owned, controlled, and/or managed by the Debtor.

#### **RESPONSE**:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 43 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims or defense. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1).

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 44:**

Produce all documents reflecting marketing materials for the following entities for the period from January 1, 2013 to the present: (i) the Debtor; (ii) all of the Debtor's Managed Funds; (iii) all of the Debtor's subsidiaries, both direct and indirect majority-owned; (iv) all Affiliates of the Debtor; and (v) any other entity owned, controlled, and/or managed by the Debtor.

#### **RESPONSE**:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 44 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims or defense. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1).

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 45:**

Produce all documents related to any employment and/or shareholder or partnership agreement between Dondero, on the one hand, and any of the following entities on the other hand, for the period from January 1, 2013 to the present: (i) the Debtor; (ii) all of the Debtor's Managed Funds; (iii) all of the Debtor's subsidiaries, both direct and indirect majority-owned; (iv) all Affiliates of the Debtor; (v) any other entity owned, controlled, and/or managed by the Debtor; and (vi) Strand Advisors, Inc.

#### **RESPONSE:**

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 45 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims or defense. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1).

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 46:**

Produce all documents related to any compensation (including, without limitation, base salary, annual bonus, long-term incentives, equity distributions, equity interests, perks, long-term awards, loans, forgiveness of debt, or otherwise) received by Dondero from any of the following entities for the period from January 1, 2010 to the present: (i) the Debtor; (ii) all of the Debtor's Managed Funds; (iii) all of the Debtor's subsidiaries, both direct and indirect majority-owned; (iv) all Affiliates of the Debtor; (v) any other entity owned, controlled, and/or managed by the Debtor; and (vi) Strand Advisors, Inc.

#### **RESPONSE**:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 46 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims or defense. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1). Subject to the General Objections and these specific objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to this Request to the extent they relate to (i) the Debtor.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 47:**

Produce all documents related to any compensation (including, without limitation, base salary, annual bonus, long-term incentives, equity distributions, equity interests, perks, long-term awards, loans, forgiveness of debt, or otherwise) received by any Related Entity for Dondero or on Dondero's behalf, from any of the following entities for the period from January 1, 2010 to the present: (i) the Debtor; (ii) all of the Debtor's Managed Funds; (iii) all of the Debtor's subsidiaries,

both direct and indirect majority-owned; (iv) all Affiliates of the Debtor; (v) any other entity owned, controlled, and/or managed by the Debtor; and (vi) Strand Advisors, Inc.

#### **RESPONSE:**

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 47 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims or defense. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1).

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 48:**

Produce all documents reflecting and/or relating to any organizational charts for any of the following entities for the period from January 1, 2013 to the present: (i) the Debtor; (ii) all of the Debtor's Managed Funds; (iii) all of the Debtor's subsidiaries, both direct and indirect majority-owned; (iv) all Affiliates of the Debtor; (v) any other entity owned, controlled, and/or managed by the Debtor; and (vi) Strand Advisors, Inc.

#### **RESPONSE**:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 48 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims or defense. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1). Subject to the forgoing objection, Highland refers the Defendants to documents filed on this main docket in the above-referenced bankruptcy case.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 49:**

Produce all documents reflecting and/or relating to Dondero's employment, investment, and/or managerial role(s) in any of the following entities for the period from January 1, 2013 to the present: (i) the Debtor; (ii) all of the Debtor's Managed Funds; (iii) all of the Debtor's subsidiaries, both direct and indirect majority-owned; (iv) all Affiliates of the Debtor; (v) any other entity owned, controlled, and/or managed by the Debtor; and (vi) Strand Advisors, Inc.

#### **RESPONSE:**

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 49 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims or defense. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1).

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 50:**

Produce the Debtor's "books and records" referred to in paragraph 66(j) of the Amended Complaint filed against Defendant James Dondero.

## **RESPONSE**:

Subject to the General Objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 50.

## **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 51**:

Produce all documents and communications evidencing any action taken by any limited partner of the Debtor to (i) take part in the control (within the meaning of the Delaware Act) of the Partnership's business; (ii) transact any business in the Partnership's name; and/or (iii) sign any documents or otherwise bind the Partnership in accordance with the LPA.

## **RESPONSE**:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 51 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims or defense. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1).

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 52:**

Produce all documents and communications evidencing the value of the HCRE Notes.

#### **RESPONSE:**

Subject to the General Objections and these specific objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 52.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 53:**

Produce all documents and communications evidencing the value of the HCMS Notes.

## **RESPONSE:**

Subject to the General Objections and these specific objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 53.

## **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 54:**

Produce all documents and communications evidencing the value of the NPA Note.

## **RESPONSE**:

Subject to the General Objections and these specific objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 54.

## **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 55**:

Produce all documents and communications evidencing the value of the Dondero Notes.

## **RESPONSE:**

Subject to the General Objections and these specific objections, Highland will conduct a reasonable search for, and produce, documents responsive to Request for Production No. 55.

## **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 56:**

Produce the loan documentation for all loans made by Debtor to any then-current executive, consultant, or employee of Debtor or any related Person.

### **RESPONSE:**

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 56 on the grounds that (a) it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims or defense, *see* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1), and (b) the phrases "loan documentation," "consultant," and "any related Person" are vague and ambiguous. Subject to the General Objections and these specific objections, Highland states that loans made by Debtor to any then-current executive, employee, or related party are identified and described in Highland's audited financial statements previously produced to James Dondero.

#### **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 57:**

Produce all documents reflecting the payment status of all loans identified in response to the above (No. 56) Request for Production, and if forgiven, all documents reflecting the conditions for forgiveness.

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 57 on the grounds that (a) it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims or defenses, *see* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1), and (b) the phrases "loan documentation," "consultant," and "any related Person" in Request for Production No. 56 are vague and ambiguous. Subject to the General Objections and these specific objections, Highland states that loans made by Debtor to any then-current executive, employee, or related party are identified and described in Highland's audited financial statements previously produced to James Dondero.

## **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 58:**

Produce all documents related to any audits of the Debtor from 2013 forward, including, but not limited to, any management letters, audit notes, and audit files.

#### **RESPONSE**:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 58 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims or defense. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1). Subject to the General Objections and these specific objections, Highland and PricewaterhouseCoopers previously produced documents responsive to Request for Production No. 58.

# **REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 59**:

Produce all documents related to the sale or potential sale of any portfolio companies of the Debtor or interests in any portfolio companies owned by the Debtor, including, but not limited to, MGM, Trussway, and Cornerstone.

#### **RESPONSE**:

Highland objects to Request for Production No. 59 on the grounds that (a) it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, not proportional to the needs of the case, and not relevant to the parties' claims or defenses, *see* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1), and (b) the phrase "potential sale" is vague and

ambiguous. Subject to the General Objections and these specific objections, Highland states that it has no documents responsive to Request for Production No. 59.

## **RESPONSES TO REQUESTS FOR ADMISSIONS**

## **REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 1:**

Admit that Highland Capital Management, L.P. entered into the Fourth Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of Highland Capital Management, L.P. (the "LPA"), on or about December 24, 2015.

## **RESPONSE:**

Deny. Highland Capital Management, L.P. did not enter into, and is not a party to, the LPA.

#### **REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 2:**

Admit that the LPA provided that the Majority Interest of Highland Capital Management, L.P. could approve compensation for the General Partner and its Affiliates (as those terms are defined in the LPA).

## **RESPONSE:**

Deny. Request for Admission No. 2 inaccurately summarizes Section 3.10 of the LPA, which speaks for itself.

## **REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 3:**

Admit that James Dondero was an Affiliate of the General Partner in 2017 (as those terms are defined in the LPA).

## **RESPONSE:**

Admit.

## **REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 4:**

Admit that James Dondero was an Affiliate of the General Partner in 2018 (as those terms are defined in the LPA).

## **RESPONSE:**

Admit.

#### **REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 5:**

Admit that James Dondero was an Affiliate of the General Partner in 2019 (as those terms are defined in the LPA).

Admit.

## **REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 6:**

Admit that James Dondero was an Affiliate of the General Partner in 2020 (as those terms are defined in the LPA).

## **RESPONSE:**

Admit that James Dondero was an Affiliate of the General Partner from January 1 through January 9, 2020, and otherwise deny Request for Admission No. 6 on the basis of the corporate governance settlement that Mr. Dondero entered into and that was approved by the Court. See Docket Nos. 338 and 339.

#### **REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 7:**

Admit that the Dugaboy Family Trust held a Majority Interest in Highland Capital Management, L.P. in 2017 (as those terms are defined in the LPA).

## **RESPONSE:**

Deny. "Dugaboy Family Trust" is neither a defined term nor a party to the LPA.

## **REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 8:**

Admit that the Dugaboy Family Trust held a Majority Interest in Highland Capital Management, L.P. in 2018 (as those terms are defined in the LPA).

## **RESPONSE:**

Deny. "Dugaboy Family Trust" is neither a defined term nor a party to the LPA.

#### **REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 9:**

Admit that the Dugaboy Family Trust held a Majority Interest in Highland Capital Management, L.P. in 2019 (as those terms are defined in the LPA).

## **RESPONSE:**

Deny. "Dugaboy Family Trust" is neither a defined term nor a party to the LPA.

## **REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 10:**

Admit that the Dugaboy Family Trust held a Majority Interest in Highland Capital Management, L.P. in 2020 (as those terms are defined in the LPA).

Deny. "Dugaboy Family Trust" is neither a defined term nor a party to the LPA.

# **REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 11:**

Admit that Nancy Dondero was the Dugaboy Family Trustee (as defined in the LPA) in 2017.

## **RESPONSE:**

HCMLP objects to Request for Admission No. 11 on the ground that "Dugaboy Family Trust" is not defined in the LPA. HCMLP denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the matter asserted in Request for Admission No. 11. HCMLP acknowledges that the Defendants apparently contend that Nancy Dondero was the Dugaboy Family Trustee in 2017.

## **REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 12:**

Admit that Nancy Dondero was the Dugaboy Family Trustee (as defined in the LPA) in 2018.

## **RESPONSE:**

HCMLP objects to Request for Admission No. 12 on the ground that "Dugaboy Family Trust" is not defined in the LPA. HCMLP denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the matter asserted in Request for Admission No. 12. HCMLP acknowledges that the Defendants apparently contend that Nancy Dondero was the Dugaboy Family Trustee in 2018.

## **REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 13:**

Admit that Nancy Dondero was the Dugaboy Family Trustee (as defined in the LPA) in 2019.

## **RESPONSE:**

HCMLP objects to Request for Admission No. 13 on the ground that "Dugaboy Family Trust" is not defined in the LPA. HCMLP denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the matter asserted in Request for Admission No. 13. HCMLP acknowledges that the Defendants apparently contend that Nancy Dondero was the Dugaboy Family Trustee in 2019.

#### **REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 14:**

Admit that Nancy Dondero was the Dugaboy Family Trustee (as defined in the LPA) in 2020.

HCMLP objects to Request for Admission No. 14 on the ground that "Dugaboy Family Trust" is not defined in the LPA. HCMLP denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the matter asserted in Request for Admission No. 14. HCMLP acknowledges that the Defendants apparently contend that Nancy Dondero was the Dugaboy Family Trustee in 2020.

## **REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 15:**

Admit that James Dondero was the primary beneficiary and the lifetime beneficiary of Dugaboy in 2017.

## **RESPONSE:**

HCMLP denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the matters asserted in Request for Admission No. 15. HCMLP acknowledges that Mr. Dondero contends that he is the primary beneficiary and the lifetime beneficiary of Dugaboy and that HCMLP has relied on such contentions in other aspects of the Bankruptcy Case.

## **REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 16:**

Admit that James Dondero was the primary beneficiary and the lifetime beneficiary of Dugaboy in 2018.

### **RESPONSE:**

HCMLP denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the matters asserted in Request for Admission No. 16. HCMLP acknowledges that Mr. Dondero contends that he is the primary beneficiary and the lifetime beneficiary of Dugaboy and that HCMLP has relied on such contentions in other aspects of the Bankruptcy Case.

#### **REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 17:**

Admit that James Dondero was the primary beneficiary and the lifetime beneficiary of Dugaboy in 2019.

## **RESPONSE:**

HCMLP denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the matters asserted in Request for Admission No. 17. HCMLP acknowledges that Mr. Dondero contends that he is the primary beneficiary and the lifetime beneficiary of Dugaboy and that HCMLP has relied on such contentions in other aspects of the Bankruptcy Case.

#### **REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 18:**

Admit that James Dondero was the primary beneficiary and the lifetime beneficiary of Dugaboy in 2020.

HCMLP denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the matters asserted in Request for Admission No. 18. HCMLP acknowledges that Mr. Dondero contends that he is the primary beneficiary and the lifetime beneficiary of Dugaboy and that HCMLP has relied on such contentions in other aspects of the Bankruptcy Case.

## **REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 19:**

Admit that the Debtor's assets (including assets held through direct or indirect subsidiaries) exceeded its liabilities as of December 31, 2017.

# **RESPONSE:**

Deny because the Debtor's assets (including assets held through direct or indirect subsidiaries) did not exceed its liabilities as of December 31, 2017.

## **REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 20:**

Admit that the Debtor's assets (including assets held through direct or indirect subsidiaries) exceeded its liabilities in January 2018.

## **RESPONSE:**

Deny because the Debtor's assets (including assets held through direct or indirect subsidiaries) did not exceed its liabilities as of December 31, 2018.

## **REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 21:**

Admit that the Debtor's assets (including assets held through direct or indirect subsidiaries) exceeded its liabilities as of December 31, 2018.

#### **RESPONSE:**

Deny because the Debtor's assets (including assets held through direct or indirect subsidiaries) did not exceed its liabilities as of December 31, 2018.

#### **REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 22:**

Admit that the Debtor's assets (including assets held through direct or indirect subsidiaries) exceeded its liabilities as of December 31, 2019.

# **RESPONSE:**

Deny because the Debtor's assets (including assets held through direct or indirect subsidiaries) did not exceed its liabilities as of December 31, 2019.

# **REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 23:**

Admit that within Highland each of MGM, Cornerstone and Trussway were referred to as "Portfolio Companies."

# **RESPONSE:**

Highland objects to Request for Admission No. 24 on the ground that the phrase "within Highland" is vague and ambiguous.

## **OBJECTIONS AND RESPONSES TO INTERROGATORIES**

## **INTERROGATORY NO. 1:**

Identify all damages that you are seeking against each of the Defendants, including, how those damages are calculated.

## **RESPONSE:**

Against each maker of each Notes, HCMLP seeks damages in an amount equal to (a) all unpaid principal under each Note, (b) all accrued and unpaid interest under each Note, and (c) all actual expenses of collection, including court costs, and reasonable attorneys' fees in connection with each of the Adversary Proceedings. HCMLP incorporates by reference its prior written responses to discovery and refers the defendants to the Notes and the invoices of Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones, LLP other documents being produced in this adversary proceeding.

Against Nancy Dondero and Dugaboy, HCMLP seeks damages in an amount equal to (a) all unpaid principal under each Note, and (b) all accrued and unpaid interest under each Note.

Against James Dondero for aiding and abetting Nancy Dondero's and Dugaboy's breach of fiduciary duty, HCMLP seeks damages in an amount equal to (a) all unpaid principal under each Note, and (b) all accrued and unpaid interest under each Note.

Damages will continue to increase as interest continues to accrue and Highland continues to incur additional costs of collection.

## **INTERROGATORY NO. 2:**

Provide the factual basis for your allegation in the Amended Complaints that Dugaboy owed a fiduciary duty to the Debtor.

## **RESPONSE:**

Assuming that a court of competent jurisdiction finds that Dugaboy entered into an agreement on behalf of HCMLP pursuant to which HCMLP agreed to forgive collection on all or any of the Notes, then Dugaboy will have owed a fiduciary duty to the Debtor because, among

other things, (a) Dugaboy would have been acting on the Debtor's behalf, (b) Dugaboy would have bound the Debtor, and (c) Dugaboy would have been required to act reasonably under the circumstances.

## **INTERROGATORY NO. 3:**

Provide the factual basis for your allegation in the Amended Complaints that Nancy Dondero owed a fiduciary duty to the Debtor.

#### **RESPONSE:**

HCMLP incorporates by reference its response to Interrogatory No. 3 and further notes that Ms. Dondero would have caused Dugaboy to enter into the Alleged Agreement.

### **INTERROGATORY NO. 4:**

Identify all acts or omissions by each of the Defendants that breached any alleged fiduciary duties owed to the Debtor.

## **RESPONSE:**

Assuming that a court of competent jurisdiction finds that Dugaboy entered into an agreement pursuant to which HCMLP agreed to forgive collection on the Notes, then Dugaboy and Nancy would have breached their fiduciary duties by acting unreasonably by (a) agreeing to forgive Notes with an aggregate principal amount in excess of \$70 million for \$1 in value, (b) agreeing to forgive Notes with an aggregate principal amount in excess of \$70 million at a time when they had no obligation to do so and received woefully inadequate consideration in return, and (c) otherwise acting unreasonably under the circumstances, including failing to perform reasonable diligence, failing to document and otherwise disclose the "agreement" to the Debtor's management and auditors, and by failing to disclose the "agreement" to the Bankruptcy Court at any time.

#### **INTERROGATORY NO. 5:**

Identify all acts or omissions by each of the Defendants that aided and abetted the breach of any alleged fiduciary duties owed to the Debtor.

## **RESPONSE:**

Highland incorporates by reference its response to Interrogatory No. 5 and further states - that James Dondero would have further aided and abetted in the breach of fiduciary duties by using undue influence to persuade Ms. Dondero to enter into the Alleged Agreement on behalf of Dugaboy.

## **INTERROGATORY NO. 6:**

Provide the factual basis for your allegation in the Amended Complaints that "At all relevant times, Mr. Dondero controlled the Debtor."

## **RESPONSE:**

The evidence that Mr. Dondero controlled the Debtor is extensive and HCMLP objects to Interrogatory No. 6 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, and has been admitted to at various points in the Bankruptcy Case. Subject to the General Objections, the evidence that Mr. Dondero controlled the Debtor through at least January 9, 2020, includes his admissions, his control of Strand Advisors, Inc., his role as President of HCMLP, his authorization of the commencement of the Bankruptcy Case on behalf of HCMLP, and his agreement to the corporate governance settlement as embodied in Docket Nos. 338 and 339.

#### **INTERROGATORY NO. 7:**

Provide the factual basis for your allegations in the Amended Complaint that James Dondero controlled NPA.

#### **RESPONSE:**

The evidence that Mr. Dondero controlled NPA is extensive and HCMLP objects to Interrogatory No. 7 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, and has been admitted to at various points in the Bankruptcy Case. Subject to the forgoing objection, the

evidence that Mr. Dondero controls NPA includes, among other things, his admissions, the admissions of DC Sauter and Jason Post at various points in this case, and prior judicial findings, holdings, rulings, and orders.

### **INTERROGATORY NO. 8:**

Provide the factual basis for your allegations in the Amended Complaint that James Dondero controlled HCRE.

#### **RESPONSE:**

The evidence that Mr. Dondero controlled HCRE is extensive and HCMLP objects to Interrogatory No. 8 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, and has been admitted to at various points in the Bankruptcy Case. Subject to the forgoing objection, the evidence that Mr. Dondero controls HCRE includes, among other things, his own admissions, his direct or indirect ownership interest in HCRE, and the positions he holds and has with respect to HCRE..

## **INTERROGATORY NO. 9:**

Provide the factual basis for your allegations in the Amended Complaint that James Dondero controlled HCMS.

## **RESPONSE:**

The evidence that Mr. Dondero controlled HCMS is extensive and HCMLP objects to Interrogatory No. 9 on the grounds that it is overly broad, unduly burdensome, and has been admitted to at various points in the Bankruptcy Case. Subject to the forgoing objection, the evidence that Mr. Dondero controls HCMS includes, among other things, his own admissions, his direct or indirect ownership interest in HCMS, and the positions he holds and has with respect to HCMS.

#### **INTERROGATORY NO. 10:**

Provide the factual basis for your allegation in the Amended Complaints that "the Alleged Agreement is a fiction."

## **RESPONSE:**

Highland incorporates by reference and refers the Defendants to (a) the purported terms of the Alleged Agreement, (b) the purported purpose of the Alleged Agreement, (c) Mr. Dondero's prior sworn testimony in Adv. Pro. 21-03003; (d) documents identified on Docket Nos. 31 and 35, respectively, in Adv. Pro. 21-3004; (e) Mr. Dondero's Rule 26 disclosures in Adv. Pro. 21-03003; (f) the deposition testimony of PricewaterhouseCoopers and the exhibits marked during that deposition; (g) the lack of any documentation memorializing the terms of the Alleged Agreement, and (h) the lack of disclosure of the alleged "agreement" to the Bankruptcy Court at any time prior to confirmation, including in connection with that objection to the Debtor's Plan.

## **INTERROGATORY NO. 11:**

Provide the factual basis for your allegation in the Amended Complaints that "Mr. Dondero entered into the Alleged Agreement with actual intent to hinder, delay, or defraud a present or future creditor."

#### **RESPONSE:**

Highland contends that the evidence will prove that the Alleged Agreement is a fiction but if a court of competent jurisdiction finds otherwise, that the evidence will prove that Mr. Dondero entered into the Alleged Agreement when he knew that certain creditors, including the Redeemer Committee and Joshua Terry, were on the verge of obtaining substantial judgments against Highland and as he had at various times in the face of adverse litigation, sought to fraudulently transfer assets to limit (if not eliminate) judgment creditors' ability to collect.

## **INTERROGATORY NO. 12:**

Identify the "value of the consideration received by the Debtor for the transfers," as that term is used in the Amended Complaint, and provide the basis for how that value was calculated.

Highland made the payments reflected in each Note in exchange for a promise by each maker that payment would be made on the terms set forth therein, including the payment of all principal and interest and all costs of collection, including attorneys' fees.

# **INTERROGATORY NO. 13:**

Identify any portfolio companies that Debtor owns (wholly or partially).

## **RESPONSE:**

Highland objects to Interrogatory No. 13 on the grounds that (a) "portfolio companies" is undefined, and (b) it is overly broad, unduly burdensome and is not relevant to any party's claim or defense nor is it proportional to the needs of this case.

### **INTERROGATORY NO. 14:**

Identify any sale or potential sale of any portfolio companies (or a portion of such portfolio companies) owned (wholly or partially) by the Debtor, including, but not limited to, Trussway, MGM and Cornerstone, including the date of the sale, the buyer, and the amount paid.

#### **RESPONSE:**

Highland objects to Interrogatory No. 14 on the grounds that (a) "portfolio companies" is undefined, (b) the phrase "potential sale" is vague and ambiguous, (c) it is overly broad, unduly burdensome and is not relevant to any party's claim or defense nor is it proportional to the needs of this case, and (d) "potential sales" are not a term of the Alleged Agreement and otherwise constitute proprietary and confidential information. Subject to the forgoing objections, Highland has not sold Trussway, MGM or Cornerstone as of this time.

Dated: September 27, 2021 PACHULSKI STANG ZIEHL & JONES LLP

Jeffrey N. Pomerantz (CA Bar No. 143717)

(admitted pro hac vice)

Ira D. Kharasch (CA Bar No. 109084)

(admitted pro hac vice)

John A. Morris (NY Bar No. 266326)

(admitted pro hac vice)

Gregory V. Demo (NY Bar No. 5371992)

(admitted pro hac vice)

Hayley R. Winograd (NY Bar No. 5612569)

(admitted pro hac vice)

10100 Santa Monica Blvd., 13th Floor

Los Angeles, CA 90067 Telephone: (310) 277-6910 Facsimile: (310) 201-0760

E-mail: jpomerantz@pszjlaw.com

ikharasch@pcszjlaw.com jmorris@pszjlaw.com gdemo@pszjlaw.com hwinograd@pszjlaw.com

-and-

#### /s/ Zachery Z. Annable

## HAYWARD & ASSOCIATES PLLC

Melissa S. Hayward (Texas Bar No. 24044908)

Zachery Z. Annable (Texas Bar No. 24053075)

10501 N. Central Expy, Ste. 106

Dallas, Texas 75231 Tel: (972) 755-7100 Fax: (972) 755-7110

Email: MHayward@HaywardFirm.com

ZAnnable@HaywardFirm.com

Counsel for Highland Capital Management, L.P.